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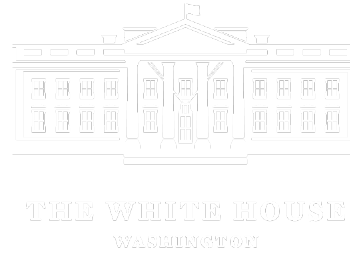
# Update on U.S. Novel Space Activities Authorization and Supervision

February 5, 2024

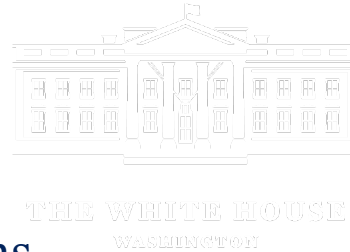
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space  
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

# Agenda

- Context
- Challenges
- Objective
- Process
  - Interagency
  - Public engagement
- Result



# Context



- Outer Space Treaty Article VI obligations
- Public policy considerations (national security, safety, space sustainability, national interest, economic opportunity including workforce development)
- 2021 U.S. Space Priorities Framework highlights importance of regulatory clarity and certainty, particularly of roles and responsibilities.
- U.S. regulatory system:
  - Department of Commerce (private remote sensing systems)
  - Department of Transportation (launch & reentry)
  - Federal Communications Commission (non-government spectrum)

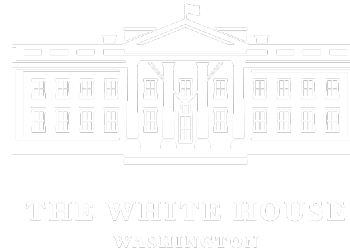


# Challenges



- The United States authorizes and supervises U.S. private sector activities in outer space, but lacks regulation **specific to** such activities that are **novel**.
  - Novel = activities not included under private remote sensing systems, launch & reentry, that fall outside these three main buckets
- Lack of clarity re: roles and responsibilities
- Augmenting existing, or establishing new, roles and responsibilities required legislation as well as additional resources to implement.
- Future space activities may be sufficiently different from current ones, necessitating a clear, comprehensive, and flexible regulatory environment that looks to the future.
- Consideration of how in space activities impact the sustainability of the space environment as part of their regulation.
- Multiple countries have emerging commercial space sectors that include novel space activities, and some of these countries are starting to outline regulatory frameworks for in-space operations. There are benefits to regulatory interoperability.



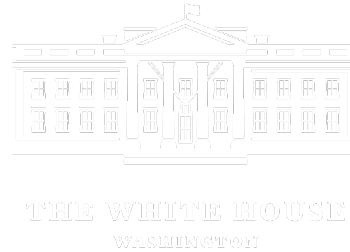


# Objective

- At 9 September 2022 National Space Council (NSpC) meeting, Vice President Harris requested U.S. departments and agencies provide a proposal for the authorization and supervision of novel private sector activities that will:
  - develop a clear and predictable framework of rules; and
  - include how we will ensure that space operations are sustainable and safe.
- Vice President Harris directed NSpC to engage with private sector stakeholders at the Commercial Space Sector event.



# Process



- NSpC convened multiple interagency meetings with robust participation across the U.S. Government.
- NSpC held three (3) Federal Register-noticed public listening sessions
  - 535 attendees, 61 public statements, 43 written statements in online docket
  - Stakeholders from academia, industry, professional organizations, subject matter experts, think tanks, and other non-governmental organizations



# Result



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- NSpC presented its draft legislative proposal with sectional analysis to the U.S. Congress on 15 November 2023.
- Vice President Harris announced the United States Novel Space Activities Authorization and Supervision Framework at the Biden-Harris Administration's 3<sup>rd</sup> National Space Council meeting on 20 December 2023.



# Implementation of Regulatory-related LTS Guidelines



LTS Guideline A.1 Adopt, revise and amend, as necessary, national regulatory frameworks for outer space activities.

LTS Guideline A.2 Consider a number of elements when developing, revising or amending, as necessary, national regulatory frameworks for outer space activities.

LTS Guideline A.3 Supervise national space activities.

LTS Guideline A.5 Enhance the practice of registering space objects.

LTS Guideline B.3 Promote the collection, sharing and dissemination of space debris monitoring information.

LTS Guideline B.4 Perform conjunction assessment during all orbital phases of controlled flight.







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