

Germany, Item 8

**UNCOPUOS**  
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**Agenda Item 8: Space and Sustainable development**

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Germany remains strongly committed to promoting sustainable development through international cooperation in space activities.

Sustainable development is a joint endeavour. It benefits each and every one of us. And each of us can contribute to achieving the goals we have set. Space is an important driver and contributor to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all countries.

At the international level, we continue to strongly support the Space4SDGs initiative and the UN Secretary-General's report "Our Common Agenda" as well as the policy brief regarding outer space published in preparation of the Summit of the Future.

At a European level, Green Space is one of the priorities at this year's Space Summit in Seville under the German Chairpersonship of the ESA Council at Ministerial level.

On the national level, we are currently preparing an update of the German Sustainable Development Strategy, involving stakeholders and the public in dialogue conferences and online consultations, with a view to continuing our efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. While other initiatives to increase the visibility of German contributions to sustainable development through space are currently being explored, I would like to highlight two examples:

- In the field of Earth Observation, the German Environmental Mapping and Analysis Programme (EnMAP) started routine operations in November 2022. The mission is being led by the German Space Agency at DLR on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action. Researchers from all over the world can now submit their enquiries to DLR. Archived data

can be accessed immediately and free of charge. A consortium is examining the observation applications, e.g. from the fields of climate change, access to water and water quality. Germany attaches particular importance to the long-term monitoring of environmental changes. This will therefore be given priority in the selection of future observations. EnMAP will also provide important data for the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters, thus supporting emergency services worldwide. The Charter has been used extensively over the past year to provide immediate assistance during floods, landslides and devastating earthquakes, such as those in Türkiye and Syria.

- We are pleased that an expert from the Centre for Applied Space Technology and Microgravity (ZARM) reported on the successful collaboration in the DropTower Experiment Series (DropTES) at the Access to Space for All side event. DropTES is Germany's ongoing contribution to the Access to Space for All initiative, which aims to expand access to space to achieve the SDGs through triangular cooperation between spacefaring nations, the United Nations and emerging spacefaring nations, with the involvement of the private sector.

Germany remains committed to a multilateral approach to disaster management and climate change mitigation. In this sense, Germany participated in the European Interparliamentary Space Conference (EISC) in April 2023 to discuss how space can support the green transition in an evolving space economy. A particular potential in the area of climate change was highlighted.

Finally, I would like to emphasise that free access to Earth observation data, where feasible and practicable, remains a key factor for various actors, from traditional to emerging spacefaring nations. This is supported by the ongoing efforts of UN-SPIDER, together with the University of Bonn, to bring together experts from around the world to discuss space-based solutions for disaster management.

Honourable Chair, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for your kind attention.