

## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPACE LAW

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Presented by: Maruška Strah, IISL STM WG Co-Chair  
Agenda Item no. 13

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Thank you, Madame Chair,

Your Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

We note with great satisfaction that Space Traffic Management (STM) continues to be on the Agenda of the Legal Subcommittee of UN COPOUS, and we would like to join the delegations that expressed their views of support for continuing our consideration of STM. We believe that the dialogue about STM needs to continue, and with the increasing space traffic, it is of great importance that STM remains a topic on the Committee's agenda.

We believe that STM is relevant for the whole global space community and contributing to the protection of space systems should be among our priorities, and creating an environment with sustainable space operations is our responsibility. We do need a set of coherent technical and regulatory provisions that will not only assure that our space operations are conducted safely, but that our return to Earth is safe as well.

We are proud to say that the Institute has made STM a topic of discussion in the ECSL/IISL Symposia, before it became an agenda item in 2016. Also, the Institute frequently has STM as a topic during its Colloquia at IAC, which serves as a forum to discuss developments of national space law. During this session of the Legal

Subcommittee we also co-organized a side event together with the Japanese delegation, dedicated to the legal aspects of STM.

### **Where to next**

In 2018, The International Institute of Space Law, the International Academy of Astronautics and the International Astronautical Federation signed a trilateral agreement, committing the three organizations to collaborate on issues relevant for STM. Followed by this agreement, IISL established a working group dedicated to STM, comprised of international legal experts. The group has presented their initial findings on mapping STM in 2020 and are now continuing their work by producing an analysis paper, identifying gaps and inconsistencies in the legal frameworks with respect to authorization and continuing supervision for space activities within the context of article VI of the Outer Space Treaty. The outcomes of the WG will also map the necessary next steps for a successful implementation of STM standards.

Madame Chair, distinguished delegates,

Let me conclude by saying that IISL remains committed to contributing legal and policy expertise on the topic of STM. Our objective is to cooperate with international and national institutions in the field of space law and carrying out tasks for fostering the development of space law. We are very eager to connect with all of you and take our work further by, where appropriate, assist with studies and other preparatory work that might be needed for the consideration of this Committee.

We look forward to hearing from other delegations about their perspectives and approaches to the legal aspects of space traffic management, and look forward to contributing our expertise when delegations see fitting.

Thank you, for your kind attention.