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**57<sup>th</sup> session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee  
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Vienna, Austria – 03 to 14 February 2020**

**Statement by the  
International Space University (ISU)**

Mister / Madame Chair, distinguished Delegates.

On behalf of the International Space University, I would like to start by offering our support to this Committee and its work in any way possible.

I am appreciative of the opportunity to provide a brief report on ISU's recent achievements and future plans in support of the aims of the Committee.

**About the International Space University**

The International Space University was founded in 1987 as an institution of higher learning, dedicated to the exploration and development of outer space for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all humanity. We are registered as a non-profit organization in France and in the USA.

Looking at the "Space 2030" Agenda and its four overarching objectives, my University feels very much identified with objective 3.3 that I will quote here "Enhance capacity-building, education and training in space science and technology, in particular for developing countries".

Throughout its three decades of existence, ISU has dedicated itself to international affiliations, collaboration, and open, scholarly pursuits related to outer space exploration and development using a '3Is' *international, intercultural* and *interdisciplinary* approach.

ISU faculty members are drawn from all sectors of the global space community, and include our Chancellor Pascale Ehrenfreund, Chair of the DLR Executive Board and President of the International Astronautical Federation.

I would like to acknowledge that the Director of the UNOOSA Office is a member of the ISU Board of Advisors, and I would like to thank Ms. Di Pippo for her advice and guidance in our future work, and her Office for the excellent preparations of this meeting.

I am particularly pleased to acknowledge the ISU alumni, faculty and community members present here today.

There are today more than 4.800 ISU alumni from 109 countries, who have learned to embrace the values of space exploration and development for peaceful purposes and in an inclusive and sustainable way.

This alumni community includes today top leaders in academia, space agencies, governments and industry around the world. The Heads of Space Agencies in Nigeria, Poland, Portugal and South Africa have studied at ISU in their early careers. The former President of China's CASC Corporation is also an ISU alumnus.

Last week, three of our recent alumni were honored to present the results of recent ISU Team Projects to this Committee. The topics presented were:

- first "Sustainable Moon",
- followed by "Space 2030, Space for the Future, Space for All", and finally
- "Space for Urban Planning".

These Team Projects are an essential component of our academic programs, where participants gain a valuable a hands-on experience of collaboration in international and interdisciplinary teams of some 25 members to tackle a topic of interest to the world space community.

These three alumni speakers represented three of our major programs, namely the Master of Space Studies, the Space Studies Program held each year in a different country from June to August, and the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program held in Australia each year in January and February.

### ***1. Master of Space Studies***

The MSc in Space Studies (MSS) is ISU's main academic program, a one-year degree with an optional, additional thesis year, which runs at ISU's central campus in Strasbourg, France.

This year's Masters class comprises 42 students representing 25 nationalities. For the first time, female students represent 60% of the class.

Our yearly survey on employment of our Masters' graduates has shown that more than 80 % of recent Masters alumni reported to have a job or continued studies (mainly PhD). Compared to previous years, a higher number of them have fund employment in (New) space consultancy companies.

## ***2. Space Studies Program***

The Space Studies Program (SSP) is a nine-week professional development program that takes place at a new location each year.

Looking ahead,

Next Summer, the SSP program will be held at ISU's Campus in Strasbourg from late June to late August.

For the Summer of 2021, the University of Granada in Spain is already working with a dynamic local organizing committee to host the itinerant ISU program.

## ***3. Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program***

In Adelaide, Australia, ISU's Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program (SH-SSP) has attracted this year fifty-three participants from fourteen countries. Their five weeks of study and work will conclude this week with the participants presenting two team projects, one on Architectures for Lunar Farming, and the other on Access to Space for the Countries of the South.

## ***4. Space Entrepreneurship Course***

Last year, the ISU started a new six-week graduate course on Space Entrepreneurship and Commerce that we intend to offer each year, in collaboration with several US universities led by the Florida Institute of Technology.

## ***5. Other Activities and Achievements***

New services in space business incubation and acceleration are now available at ISU's campus in Strasbourg with support from the French Space Agency (CNES) and the European Space Agency (ESA), as well as the Strasbourg Eurometropolis and the Grand Est Region in France.

The one-week Executive Space Course, for professionals who are new to the space sector, is offered in three continents: Australia, Europe and North America.

In all of its activities, the International Space University strongly supports the aims and objectives of COPUOS.

If any delegates would like to know more about ISU, they are invited to contact us. Delegations may find it useful to consult recent Team Project reports on topics linked to Space and the Sustainable Development Goals, on Space Weather, Disaster Management or on the Long Term Sustainability of Earth's Orbits and the Moon. These



reports are publicly available on the ISU Library website.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the main activities and plans of the International Space University to this Committee.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Assistant Professor Taiwo TEJUMOLA  
Central Campus Faculty  
International Space University  
[www.isunet.edu](http://www.isunet.edu)  
[taiwo.tejumola@isunet.edu](mailto:taiwo.tejumola@isunet.edu)