

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

60th Session of

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

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Agenda Item 3

General Exchange of Views

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to introduce the recent and future activities of our NGO, the University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC)-Global. I want to express my gratitude to Mr. Juan Francisco Facetti, the Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC), and Mr. Niklas Hedman, Acting Director of Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) for their excellent preparation.

I also would like to offer my deepest condolences and solidarity to those who suffered from the devastating earthquakes in Turkiye and Syria and appreciate those who are doing rescue activities in the cold and danger.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

To move forward side by side with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic around the world, we took positive steps last year to organize several in-person gatherings. Please allow me to mention briefly two examples. We organized the 11th CanSat Leader Training Program (CLTP-11), satellite hands-on training using HEPTA-Sat, last August in Japan after a 2-year pause. We had 21 participants from 14 countries. This program was supported by the Japanese Government (the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry - METI). The other

one was a hybrid meeting in Istanbul, last October. Our Turkish colleagues hosted both the 8th UNISEC-Global Meeting after a 2-year break, and the 11th Nano-Satellite Symposium. We also took this opportunity to hold a preparatory workshop for the 8th Mission Idea Contest (Pre MIC-8) which will lead to the main contest in Japan in November of 2023 under the theme of “Missions by Multiple Nanosatellites”. Apart from the annual in-person UNISEC-Global Meeting, we still continue our monthly virtual meetings hosted by local chapters. It became a part of the “Local Chapter Empowerment Program,” which we started in 2021 to strengthen the functions of our local chapters. We offered “UNISEC congruent systems program,” to share the operation systems of the original UNISEC with the local chapters around the world. We shared our experiences and knowhows accumulated over 20 years.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

The year of 2023 is a memorial year for us. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of UNISEC, and we also celebrate the 10th anniversary of the establishment of UNISEC-Global. Thanks to all the effort made by persons involved, we can renew our commitment to space and space engineering for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of humankind. We will organize the next in-person UNISEC-Global Meeting and the Mission Idea Contest in the later part of this year.

Last but not least, I want to appreciate that we have been allowed to join the Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. We are interested in learning how to contribute to the implementation of the LTS

guideline, and how to accommodate new rules, such as the '5-Year Rule' for deorbiting satellites in low earth orbit, which was adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the United States of America. We will study what impacts may be imposed on our university satellite projects in spacefaring and non-spacefaring countries with this rule.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

In conclusion, I would like to repeat an African proverb here again.

It says, “If you want to go faster, go alone. If you want to go further, go together”. UNISEC has chosen to go together to further space exploration and development.

Thank you for your kind attention.

By Rei Kawashima,
Secretary General of UNISEC-Global