

**Germany, Item 13****UNCOPUOS  
64<sup>th</sup> Session, Vienna, 25 August – 3 September 2021****Agenda Item 13: Future role and method of work of the Committee****Statement by Germany**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

Germany attaches great importance to strengthening the role of this Committee and UNOOSA as **unique platforms for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and in space activities**. Despite the still unprecedented global challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Committee and UNOOSA continued to take an active role in bringing space closer to society by conducting a range of webinars on topics related among others to space sustainability, space law, Space4Women and UN-SPIDER.

We would like to reiterate our appreciation of the adoption of the 21 Guidelines for the Long-term sustainability of outer space activities, which proved that the principle of consensus applied by the Committee still enables it to reach universally applicable decisions aimed at addressing a broad range of emerging issues.

Germany supports the view that **increased coordination, interaction and synergies between the Subcommittees on cross-cutting issues** would further increase the efficiency of their work. We are therefore willing to actively contribute to identifying appropriate means to this end and without duplicating the work of the Subcommittees.

Further in that regard, the work of United Nations entities with regard to space-related issues should be closely coordinated with the work of the Committee. We would therefore welcome regular updates by UN entities participating in the UN inter-agency mechanism UN-SPACE.

In the coming years, the Committee will continue to provide the suitable platform for Member States **to develop complex solutions for ensuring the long-term sustainable use of and access to outer space**. In this respect, expert inputs in the Subcommittee's work through organized symposia and technical presentations will continue to provide a valuable source for further exchanges on the latest developments

in space science, technology and law if these are closely related to dedicated agenda items.

To further increase the efficiency of work and answer to the increased demand for cooperation and international guidance, it could be considered whether informal working group meetings could be conducted more often in digital or hybrid formats. This could especially facilitate intersessional progress.

In our view, the time limitation for plenary statements proved its worth as it enables COPUOS to benefit from a larger variety of Member States' views and still leave sufficient time for substantive discussions for example within working groups. In this context, Germany also very much welcomes the opportunity to upload written statements as means **to increase transparency, public accessibility and awareness raising** and we invite all delegations to consider making use of this opportunity.

Finally, we would like to reiterate the great importance we attach to the work of COPUOS and its subcommittees.

Germany is looking forward to continue its active contributions to the multilateral work at COPUOS level in the coming years.

Thank you for your kind attention.