



The Sixty-Seventh Session of
the Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
19 – 28 June 2024

Agenda Item 5 General Exchange of Views

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

I am honored to address the 67th Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) on behalf of the University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC)-Global, an international NGO dedicated to space education. I want to express my sincere appreciation to Mr Sherif Mohamed Sedky, the Chairman of the Committee, and Ms Aarti Holla-Maini, Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA), and her team, for their exceptional preparation and ongoing support.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

May I draw your attention to capacity building, one of the significant components stipulated in the Guidelines for Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities? We have been committing ourselves to capacity building through the hands-on training program using a training tool called HEPTA-Sat. For example, we organize the CanSat/CubeSat Leader Training Program (CLTP) annually. CLTP aims to train trainers to teach basic knowledge of satellite development. We have had 134 graduates from 54 countries as of 2023 since its start in 2011, mostly from developing countries. This program was also adopted as one of the training programs for the two newly selected

Japanese astronauts. We held the training in Japan last September.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

Furthermore, we will extend our activities to Africa by holding the 13th Nano-Satellite Symposium and the 10th UNISEC-Global Meeting in Stellenbosch, South Africa, in November, in collaboration with UNISEC-South Africa Region (UNISEC-SAR), including Angola, Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. At the meetings, various opportunities will be given to African students and young researchers to learn about space in general and satellite engineering in particular. We will organize the preliminary workshop for the 9th Mission Idea Contest, focusing on lunar missions. Applicants will express their ideas, followed by screening and evaluation by international reviewers to select final winners. These experiences will enhance their awareness of space projects on the Moon and its related matters. That would live up to the purposes of the Long-term Sustainability Guidelines.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

Let me illustrate our connections with UN space affairs. The KiboCUBE project is a joint endeavor between UNOOSA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, JAXA, to offer non-spacefaring countries an opportunity to deploy a CubeSat from the ISS Japanese Experiment Module “Kibo” free of charge. The selected teams are required to develop, operate, and utilize their CubeSat. To ensure their effective implementation, the KiboCUBE Academy, the on-demand space lectures on the website, was provided so that they could gain knowledge of space engineering and technical know-how before they

applied for the KiboCUBE. We support the KiboCUBE Academy by providing lecturers and managing their activities.

The other project I want to mention is a monthly virtual UNISEC-Global Meeting. Everyone can participate in this online two-hour meeting, free of charge, hosted each month by different members. Mexico, India, Nepal, Japan, and Italy hosted it recently, and Malaysia will host it this coming July.

Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

I want to conclude my statement by referring to one of the essential principles, which states that space is a common property for all humankind. In this sense, human resources development is a crucial factor. As a space educational NGO, the UNISEC-Global will continue its commitment to capacity building for developing countries with our founding spirit of equal access to and equitable use of space and the awareness of altruistic values.

To sum it up, let's go to space together; no one should be left behind!

Thank you for your kind attention.

By Rei Kawashima,
Secretary General of UNISEC-Global