

## **The 18<sup>th</sup> SDG – Space for All – the open nature of the 18<sup>th</sup> SDG rationale**

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Although the many significant themes of space regulation, policy making and legal parameters are capably oriented through ONOOSA and the COPUOS subcommittees, the growing number of participating State members and the complexity of the various formative dynamics may pose some limitations on internal efficiencies owing to budgetary constraints. Complicating such an issue is the fact that the Space2030Agenda will be generally assessed over the next few years, and a further expansion of the covering dimensions may be considered in pursuit of the upcoming phase. The 18thSDG can provide an equitable solution for such a critical outlook as the underlying rationale elaborates an open, innovative, flexible and accessible forum, globally distributed and designed through the consensus of participating States.

The rationale of “Space for All” can comprise many considerations and eventualities within a holistic, non-regulatory design oriented model. These aspects will include the potentials for international collaboration around many themes. Foremost will be the inclusion of not only downstream terrestrial space technologies for the progression of the 17SDG’s but also upstream technologies, currently developed for placement within cis-lunar infrastructures and the incoming lunar settlement programs. In particular the space usage purviews will include debris mitigation and removal, dual use contingencies, space based solar power and beamed laser communications and the general availability of a mutable all nation participation. Issues that can be addressed will also be configured around the overriding “quality of life in space “such as space located habitats and related gravity studies, food production in space and health and safety for civilian astronauts. The ascendent space economy represents a new global economy which holds important potentials for scientific advancement, industrialization, and educational dissemination. Data bank usage and AI eventualities continue to rapidly unfold, creating a viable network of global interchange and problem solving contingency. Internationalized commercial programs moving in tangent with governmental objectives may lead the way, while extensive trade agreements amongst nations will represent a new phase for free markets and collaborative ventures.

The 18thSDG will be upheld through an optional process of participation and subscription amongst the UN and agency representations. This open ended rationale creates a responsible environment where discretionary powers around space usage remain as national perspectives while developmental attributes are taken up through national inclinations. The sum total of an open dynamic of this type will trend towards worthwhile interchange and many mechanisms for collective and participatory action.

The placement of an 18thSDG of this type will avoid many regulatory and legal hurdles. Because of the time that must be spent on complicated abstractions, delays of this type may result in missed opportunities for the international community. Keeping up with the rapidly unfolding space paradigm is best effected through the binding principles of nation State responsibility and equitable purpose for consensus. The pervasive goodwill of national leaders and people in all places continues to define the ethic of the Outer Space Treaty which remains a stable and durable milestone. The development of the notable and inclusive 18th SDG holistic rationale “Space for All “clearly represents advancing prospects as human civilization moves together into the space faring era.

## Paper

The global dynamic for outer space development is in flux. Owing to the opening up of commercial space markets over the past few years, many perspectives have shifted from agency based considerations regarding funding contingency towards the scope of economic and industrial outlooks. Agency and inter- agency perspectives are to some extent now subject to marketplace dynamics. This reorientation supports the fast development of private space industry, but it also subjects the alignment of outlooks into a more stringent investment based formulations. While space agencies remain the guiding principles, industry has now taken up a significant role as provider. The subsequent tensions represented by such a shift may be ascribed to the pursuit of competitive values, a push for marketplace domination and similar factors. Complicating this picture is the fast emerging role of outer space for military agents. Because war fighting contingencies are enabled by space utilities, various political and societal thematics can be considered as running closely in parallel. Industrialization perspectives, funding, patronage and usage types including civil society development.

The complexity of the current paradigm does not lend itself to comprehensive oversight or regulatory assessment. Nations must be free to choose priorities and perspectives. Models of governance are varied, and national alignments are subject to expediency and opportunity. Nevertheless, the comprehensive flux of international space development still posits the critical role in international affairs. More so perhaps, as the impetus for space development coalesces around activities which may also be said to be highly interconnected mediums of engagement, both marketplace efficiencies and high ground domination being brought to the fore. The significant dangers of such dynamic are apparent, as priority funding for military uses becomes quickly extended, funding for civil society development purpose is set aside and reduced. While the economy for space industry grows through commercial contract. the ethical purpose of space investment and even space exploration may shift into alternative and fragmented areas of affiliation and engagement.

Because of the nature of the complex space development paradigm an open ended design based approach such as the 18thSDG may yield good results. Indeed, it may be the only way to ensure global accessibility and interchange in the face of impending national segregation and political devolution. The basis of the 18thSDG hinges on a non-regulatory design based framework. Owing to ever extending ability of modern informational techniques for exchange, interchange and consolidation, such an orientation is now fully assumable. At low cost and within the small budget designated to UNOOSA, a design oriented platform can be described and situated for consideration of the General Assembly. Such orientations could be taken up by alternative pathways, but the bureaucratic framework of the UN referral system may add certain barriers to the ability of nation state interaction within the constraints of funding and limited time frames.

The original basis of an 18thSDG design oriented approach is the optional and participatory nature of the exercise. Nations and organizations wishing to subscribe for the 18<sup>th</sup> SDG may offer policy themes and provide informational and technological assets on topics of interest. These would include NEO space development for terrestrial applications as a leading issue in embracing the outcome of the 17SDG objectives. Other types of participatory mechanisms might address upstream technologies within the lunar settlement and cis-lunar industrialization purviews. Space science expositions at many levels, for both national agendas and advanced research and development projects, will also demonstrate and obtain considerable educational opportunities and distributed engagements. The technical features of space usage can also be addressed. Space

situational awareness and space traffic management being a significant criteria. A further technological issue evolves around the placement of internationalized agreements for space based applications for crisis and containment. An evaluation of proliferation and arms control mechanisms can also be pursued within such dimensions as a radical open ended dialog would do much to advance the progressions towards a “space weapons ban”. The risks to the space environment at this moment of transition cannot be underestimated, accumulated space debris poses the denigration of orbital environs, even while space militarization preoccupies national narratives.

The open ended nature of the 18thSDG paradigm “Space for All” will allow creativity and engagement to flourish. An ever growing demand for space services posits the need for the UN agencies to seriously consider such a placement. Within limited budgets, a voluntary and optional 18thSDG subscription service based on national and agency inclinations will greatly extend the potential for resolution of many space based issues. In particular the effective tome of modern data collations may lead into the uptake of wholesale global perspectives along the lines of the CERN engagement for distributed atomic investigation.

We must accept that we are living in unprecedented times. The assumption of global mass communications and the advent of AI has displaced historic cultural backgrounds and repositioned space development as a leading criteria. Radical and motivating events within such a technological flux will pass across the world in a matter of days. In this age of informational assets, the distributed technologies of space should not imply totalitarian impetus, rather they describe accessibility, participation and the evolution of international interchange, understanding and the equitable relationships between nations.

The functionality of the 18thSDG is based on the criteria properly described in the Outer Space Treaty, that outer space has been designated as the peaceful domain of all mankind. The 18thSDG proposal describes a formative vehicle to achieve such contemplative ends, through further analysis and consideration, it may become the remarkable design based tool that can fulfill the remarkable function