

Governance Without A New Government: A Resource Agreement for the Moon & Beyond

The Space Treaty Project

Scientific and Educational Nonprofit
based in Northern California

Our Mission: To give people Hope &
Inspiration by helping the nations of
Earth to build a Common Future

www.spacetreaty.org



The Approaching Historical Crisis

Repeating the Mistakes of the Age of Imperialism

1. National Efforts to Expand Political Hegemony
2. Competition/Conflict over Scarce Resources
(e.g., water, peaks of eternal sunlight)
3. Unsettled Role of Private Sector
4. Lack of Comprehensive International Agreement



ARTEMIS ACCORDS

United for Peaceful Exploration of Deep Space



وكالة الإمارات للفضاء
UAE SPACE AGENCY

Logos of the space agencies who are partners with NASA in the Artemis Program and have signed the Artemis Accords

Invitation from Russia and China to become partners in the International Lunar Research Station (technology shared)



China National Space Administration



International Lunar Research Station

ILRS

Guide for Partnership

(V1.0)

June 2021



United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)

Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resource Activities

Mandate (2022-27):

(a) Collect relevant information concerning activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources,

(c) Assess the benefits of further development of a framework for such activities, including by way of additional international governance instruments;

Model Resource Agreement

Organizational Principles

1. The Agreement must be comprehensive in scope and support all private activity.
2. The Grand Bargain: Trade private property rights for public policy obligations.
3. Build upon and integrate current institutions and processes.
4. Defer issues currently at impasse (e.g., monetary sharing of benefits) for future action by the States Parties.

Sharing Outer Space Resources

1. Share access to resources in place (in situ)
2. Conduct resource activity in such a manner that others can safely access same resource
3. The land itself is a resource
4. Resources removed from in place can become private property (national rules)

Public Policy Obligations

1. Use outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes (Article 3.1);
2. Provide co-operation and mutual assistance (4.2);
3. Inform the public of:
 - Activities (5.1)
 - Scientific discoveries (5.1)
 - Any phenomena which could endanger human life or health (5.3)
 - Any indication of organic life (5.3)
 - The use of radioactive materials (7.2)
 - The discovery of resources (11.6)
4. Protect the environment and preserve areas of “special scientific interest”, including historic landing sites (7.1-7.3);
5. Allow free access to all areas by other parties (9.2).

Related Components of Agreement

1. Registration of space resource activities
2. Work with non-governmental entities to develop standards and recommended practices (SARP's)
3. Protect natural environment, areas of scientific interest
4. Dispute Resolution: voluntary binding arbitration, international enforcement of awards/agreements
5. Fees (collection and use) deferred for later decision
6. Jurisdiction/Control by authorizing/supervising country
7. Rights of individuals (e.g., seeking asylum) and settlements (self-governance, recognition) are protected

Summary

Increasing need for international governance of space resource activity to support all private activity while protecting essential public policies

COPUOS has formed a working group to assess the benefits of additional international governance instruments

An international agreement can support effective polycentric governance without creating a new supra-national government

The Model Resource Agreement, based on sharing and cooperation, provides such governance, either alone or as part of the Moon Treaty

Our Mission

Challenging Times: climate change, worsening economic inequality, racial/gender injustice, assaults on democracy, international conflicts, the threat of war in outer space

Results: Despair, Cynicism, Loss of Hope

Our Mission: Restore that hope, inspire humanity by giving people a future they can believe in. To build that shining city on a hill that will light the way for all.

Full Model Agreement, link to Share the Moon petition, more information at www.spacetreaty.org, or dennisobrien@spacetreaty.org