



### Agenda Item 3 General Exchange of Views

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

As a representative of the University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC)-Global, I want to thank Ms. Nomfuneko Majaja, the Chairperson of the Legal Subcommittee for giving me an opportunity to make this online statement such as this, and I want to thank Mr. Niklas Hedman, Acting Director of Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) for their excellent preparation.

Before I introduce our activities, I must express my deepest condolences and sympathies to those who suffered from the recent devastating earthquakes in Turkiye and Syria, and strongly hope for smooth and speedy recoveries from such massive destruction.

Madam 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. For example. We organized the 11<sup>th</sup> CanSat Leader Training Program (CLTP-11), satellite hands-on training using HEPTA-Sat, last August in Japan after a 2-year pause. There were 21 participants from 14 countries. One more example was a hybrid meeting in Istanbul, last October. Our Turkish colleagues hosted both the 8<sup>th</sup> UNISEC-Global Meeting after a 2-year break,

and the 11<sup>th</sup> Nano-Satellite Symposium.

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

As far as our legal aspects are concerned, we set up the Guiding Principles in 2018 which is a code of conduct for UNISEC-Global. This code of conduct has been translated into 17 languages around the world. In the Guiding Principles, we emphasize the importance of observing international and internal regulations, even the rules of a small research team we belong to. Throughout our activities, we tell our member students that compliance with the rules is one of the big factors for ensuring successful results.

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

Taking into account the drastic changes in space environment since a few decades ago, due to the increasing number of space players from not only the government, but also the commercial sector as well as universities, we need new specific rules or updating the existing rules for ensuring orderly, harmonious development in space. In this sense, I believe that there is an important role to be played by legal experts like the members of this Subcommittee. However, it may be also true that there are some technical people who are not always satisfied with what the legal experts have in mind. As far as advanced technology like space technology is concerned, I think that there is some gap between technical and non-technical people about the way of thinking about technology. Therefore, it is important to narrow such a gap for healthier space development.

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

As a space engineering educational NGO, I believe that we can contribute to narrowing the gap between lawyers and engineers with our hands-on training programs. Based on the concept of easier, shorter, and cheaper access to space, particularly by using small satellite technology, this program has been developed for those who want to learn more about space engineering, using the HEPTA-Sat kit, a CubeSat component. If you give us a period of a few days, I am sure that you will be able to know more space and space technology through this hands-on training program, which would help bridge the existing gap.

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to conclude my statement by citing an African proverb again, which is the basic norm of our activities. It says, "If you want to go faster, go alone. If you want to go further, go together". Of course, UNISEC-Global has taken the latter part of going together to further space exploration and development. We invite legal experts as well to join us.

Thank you for your kind attention.

By Rei Kawashima,  
Secretary General of UNISEC-Global