Status of Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements: U.S. Perspectives

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Bilateral Efforts and U.S. Priorities

• National Space Policy of 2010 still official U.S. space policy
  – Emphasis on international cooperation and cooperative initiatives
  – Willingness to consider arms control measures for space activities
• Trump administration
  – SPD 1: Reinvigorating America's Human Space Exploration Program
  – SPD-2: Streamlining Regulations on Commercial Use of Space
  – SPD-3: National Space Traffic Management Policy
    • Announce the establishment of a Space Force
• USG officials talk of a changed space domain
• SSA sharing agreements: 16 countries, over 70 commercial partners
Multilateral Discussions

• Challenging to accurately include all stakeholders because very state-centric

• UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) Long-Term Sustainability Guidelines
  – 87 countries agreed to 21 guidelines
  – U.S. now looking to national implementation

• Space security discussions had been stopped up at the UN level but over the past year, three separate initiatives on-going
  – Subsidiary Body 3 of the UN Conference on Disarmament
  – GGE on further practical measures for the prevention of an armed race in outer space (PAROS)
  – UN Disarmament Commission Working Group 2
Norms of Behavior

• U.S. participation in many efforts examining what constitutes norms of behavior
  – Rules of the road an effective way in which to ensure sustainability of space
• Consortium for Execution of Rendezvous and Servicing Operations
• Global VSAT Forum (GVF)’s “Endorsement of Best Practices for Sustainable Space Activities”
• Hague Space Resources Governance Working Group discussions
• International legal regime for laws of armed conflict is unclear
  – Work proceeding on complementary Manual on International Law Applicable to Military Uses of Outer Space (MILAMOS) and Woomera manuals
Questions?

Thanks.

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