

**Secure World Foundation**  
**Exchange of Views Statement**  
**Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the**  
**United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**  
**Delivered 3 February 2015**

Mr. Chairman, the Secure World Foundation (SWF) extends our appreciation to you for your continued excellent guidance of this Subcommittee. We are pleased that this Subcommittee continues to successfully provide effective support for the peaceful uses of outer space, especially for emerging and developing space States. The Secure World Foundation continues to offer its support to the Subcommittee in any way it can.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, on behalf of Secure World, I appreciate the opportunity today to present an update on the Foundation's work since June 2014 in support of the aims of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. SWF focuses its work on three primary themes: ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, fostering the development of sound space policy and law, and enhancing the use of space technology and international cooperation in support of human and environmental security on Earth.

In July 2014, SWF co-sponsored a conference on emerging space economies with Wilton Park in the United Kingdom. SWF Executive Director Dr. Michael Simpson was one of four facilitators leading discussions on the role of space technology in economic development, and on how to translate insights and capabilities provided by space technology into policy with direct economic benefits.

In August, SWF continued its long-standing efforts to foster international cooperation on Earth observations (EO). We were honored to partner with the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Sciences in organizing a workshop in Washington, DC, on EO data policy and cooperation. The workshop discussed the opportunities and challenges surrounding the sharing of EO data for human and environmental security challenges on Earth. It brought together experts from the United States and China to discuss the importance of EO, national policies supporting EO data sharing, and case studies on sharing EO data for disaster management.

In September, SWF celebrated the much-anticipated decision by the United States to release global high-resolution elevation data from the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission 2 (SRTM-2). SWF was recognized in the announcement by the U.S. government as one of the key partners involved in the data release initiative and in its ongoing capacity-building efforts to enable the use of this information in developing countries. As part of its human and environmental security efforts, SWF is working with interagency and international partners in the roll-out of the data, which will include a series of regional capacity-building workshops around the world.

Improving space situational awareness (SSA) for all space actors continued to be another focal point for our work in 2014. In September, we partnered with the Maui Economic Development Board to hold the second annual AMOS Dialogue in Maui, United States, in conjunction with the Advanced Maui Optical and Space Surveillance (AMOS) Conference. Prompted by growing innovation in private sector SSA capabilities and services, this year's Dialogue focused on promoting greater collaboration and cooperation between governmental and non-governmental SSA initiatives. SWF staff members also chaired panel sessions on U.S. policy and international perspectives on SSA as part of the daylong Policy

Forum held before the technical conference. SWF also released an updated version of its fact sheet on SSA, which included recent developments in the United States, Europe, and the commercial sector.

Also in September, SWF hosted a workshop in Broomfield, Colorado, on communicating Near-Earth Object (NEO) hazards and plans for NEO impact mitigation. The workshop was organized at the request and for the benefit of the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN), which was created at the recommendation of this Subcommittee and Action Team 14. The workshop brought together a diverse group of experts from the NEO science, risk communication, policy, and government emergency management communities to provide communication guidance and advice to managers and directors of IAWN member programs and institutions.

As in previous years, SWF actively participated in the 2014 International Astronautical Congress (IAC) and supported both the Space Generation Congress and the World Finals of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition, all of which took place in Toronto, Canada. SWF sponsored a working group at the Space Generation Congress that studied the legal and policy implications of on-orbit satellite servicing. SWF team members were authors or co-authors of several papers presented at IAC. Additionally, SWF once again awarded a number of travel scholarships for young professionals to present research papers on space sustainability and law and policy topics at the IAC. This year's winners hailed from China, France, India, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

In October, SWF partnered with the Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI) to co-host a conference on radio frequency interference in Brussels, Belgium. The event examined how radio frequency interference affects a variety of issues, including freedom of information (deliberate

interference), terrestrial telecommunication services (notably C-band), and governance of the geostationary arc (unintentional interference).

Also in October, SWF and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) organized an evening event on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly meetings in New York to highlight the cross-cutting nature of space security. In particular, the event emphasized the potential for collaboration between the Conference on Disarmament (CD) and UNCOPUOS in implementing the recommendations of the 2013 Report of the Secretary General's Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures In Outer Space Activities. We were honored to have the Director of the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, represent UNCOPUOS and this sub-committee at the event.

Throughout each year, SWF's offices also convene and facilitate local panel discussions and meetings on timely and relevant issues within the space policy community. Since June 2014, our offices organized local events on:

- "Monitoring the High Seas:" A panel discussion on the role of space in maritime domain awareness and ensuring safety and security on the high seas
- "Beyond the Flare:" A luncheon briefing co-sponsored by the American Astronautical Society on the scientific, communication, policy and forecasting challenges related to space weather phenomena and how it affects space sustainability
- A two-hour webinar co-sponsored with The Space Show, a web-based space talk show, on the role of satellites in disaster risk monitoring and management

- “Seeing Into Space:” A panel discussion on national security, civil, and commercial perspectives and initiatives for enhancing SSA
- “Space and the Arctic:” A panel discussion of why space capabilities are important for sustainable Arctic development.

In conclusion, Secure World Foundation is dedicated to maintaining the secure and sustainable use of space for the benefit of Earth and all its peoples. It acts as a research body, convener, and facilitator advocating for international cooperation in solving the problems of space debris, orbital crowding, and other threats to the space environment and human activities in space. The Foundation fervently believes that the challenge of sustaining the space environment into the future must be met in a truly international and cooperative manner.

Mr. Chairman, Secure World Foundation strongly supports the work of COPUOS. As the benefits of space activities expand in number and improve in quality, keeping outer space available for peaceful activities will become ever more important, as will our continued ability to use space capabilities to help solve our most pressing challenges here on Earth. Thus, we are presented with both challenges and opportunities for continued beneficial use of space for all of humanity. We look forward to continuing to support the Committee’s efforts to achieve such a future. Thank you for your time.

Secure World Foundation

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