Thank you Mr. Chairman. Distinguished delegates, it is my privilege to have the opportunity to speak to you today to announce the launch of a new project by Secure World Foundation directly related to the long-term sustainability of space activities, and specifically improving space situational awareness.
Space situational awareness – broadly defined as characterizing the space environment and its effects on activities in space – is fundamental to space sustainability. SSA provides knowledge essential to understanding the problem, identifying potential solutions, and even monitoring developments. However, most space actors do not have the resources or capacity to provide even a basic level of space situational awareness for themselves, and achieving truly “good” SSA requires both a large network of geographically distributed sensors and combining the data from that network with data provided by the owners and operators of active satellites. This is an undertaking that no one country can accomplish alone, especially in this era of fiscal austerity. Thus, some level of collaboration, cooperation and sharing between space actors is needed to provide the SSA necessary to support space sustainability.
Today, Secure World Foundation is proud to announce the launch of a website dedicated to helping solve this problem. Over the past year, we have developed a website to serve as a crowd sourced repository of publicly available information about SSA sensors around the world. The website, found at globalSSAsensors.org, combines elements of Google Earth, Google Maps, and wiki technology to present information about the location, history, and technical details of various SSA sensors, including those operated by space agencies, militaries, scientific institutions, and private enterprise.

The goal of developing this website is to increase knowledge and awareness of existing SSA resources around the world and potential opportunities for collaboration and cooperation. We believe that this should be the first step towards improving global SSA for on-orbit safety and space sustainability.

Working with partners, we have uploaded a basic set of publicly-available information on SSA sensors around the world. Our ultimate goal is to foster a community of users to update, edit, and curate the information on the website.
This screen shot shows the initial set of 215 sensors in the database. This information primarily came from research done by David Vallado at the Center for Space Standards and Innovation in the United States, and was published in a paper last year at the annual Spaceflight Mechanics Conference of the American Astronautical Society and the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics.
The entire database on the website is searchable, allowing users to find and view each sensor individually. Here you see a screenshot of the details for a specific sensor, in this case the FGAN tracking radar located in Germany. The upper part of the page shows a close-up view of the sensor’s location in Google Maps or Google Earth. Beneath that is a section on the left with some details about the sensor and on the right some technical details. All of this is editable by users in the same way as articles on Wikipedia, although we do not allow anonymous edits and we do have an editor providing some oversight of the content.
Users can also use free tools provided by Google to create and upload 3-D models of sensors, which can be viewed in a Google Earth window. Here you can see a model of the Milstone tracking radar located near Boston in the United States. There is an existing database of such 3-D models for tens of thousands of buildings and other objects, all of which were created by users and are viewable in Google Earth.
Users of the website also have the ability to view SSA sensors by network or specific countries. In this example, you can see all of the telescopes that are currently part of the International Scientific Optical Network (ISON), which is coordinated by the Russian Academy of Sciences.
As of today, the website is officially open to the public, although it is currently in beta with a limited set of features. Over the next year, we will be hard at work improving the website and welcome feedback and suggestions for features.

We also encourage all States with SSA capabilities to contribute to the website and help ensure that we have the most accurate and up to date information possible. Secure World Foundation will be consulting with Expert Group B from the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities on identifying technical experts to assist in curating the information in the database, and discussing how the website can contribute to the efforts of the Expert Group.
Secure World Foundation would also like to acknowledge the hard work of some of our partners. In particular: David Vallado from the Center for Space Standards and Innovation who did much of the initial research on existing sensors, Queen Tech Solutions from Cairo, Egypt, who is our lead web developer; and the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland at the University of Maryland, who are assisting with editing of the website.
In summary, Secure World Foundation would like to reiterate the importance of improving the space situational awareness of all space actors as the foundation of the long-term sustainability of space activities. We hope that this new website will increase knowledge and awareness of existing SSA resources around the world as well as potential opportunities for collaboration and cooperation, and we encourage all States to contribute to this effort.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for this opportunity, and I invite any questions at this time.