



Submission to the Peacebuilding Commission's Ministerial Meeting

Submitted September 29, 2023

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We appreciate this opportunity to offer this submission to the Peacebuilding Commission's Ministerial Meeting. For All Moonkind wholeheartedly supports the Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace. We believe the ideal starting point, where States can find common cause, and which should be addressed as a matter of priority at the Summit of the Future in 2024, is the recognition and protection of cultural heritage in outer space ("space heritage").

Space heritage encompasses traces of human existence that occur beyond Earth. This heritage represents the culmination of centuries of human collaboration across different cultures and communities. Every culture on Earth has played a role in humanity's quest to explore space. Recognizing and protecting space heritage celebrates the uniquely collaborative universality of these human accomplishments.

Recognizing and protecting space heritage is also a means to foster peace on Earth. By emphasizing collaboration, sustainability, education and global responsibility in space activities, we set a precedent for peaceful cooperation and diplomacy across our planet.

Among other things, recognizing and protecting space heritage will support:

Multilateral Collaboration. The protection of space heritage requires international cooperation and consensus, just like the management of cultural heritage sites on Earth. Collaborative efforts promote dialogue and diplomacy among nations, fostering trust and facilitating peaceful relations.

Peaceful Principles. Space activities are guided by international treaties like the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, which emphasizes using outer space for peaceful purposes. Emphasizing the preservation of space heritage reaffirms commitment to these principles, reducing the potential for conflicts in space.

Sustainability: Responsible management of space heritage encourages sustainable space exploration and resource utilization. This mindset extends to resource extraction on celestial bodies, preventing disputes over resource allocation and environmental damage.

Capacity Building: Safeguarding space heritage offers valuable educational opportunities. Studying artifacts on the Moon or spacecraft sent to other planets provides insights into history and technological progress, fostering unity and appreciation for human achievements.

Inspiring Future Generations: Preserving space heritage serves as inspiration for future generations, showcasing the possibilities of collaboration, innovation, and knowledge pursuit. Encouraging youth to explore science and technology can lead to advancements benefiting society and peace.

Cultural Diplomacy: Space exploration transcends political and cultural differences. Preservation of space heritage can be a medium for cultural diplomacy, fostering bonds through shared interest in space and promoting understanding.

Global Responsibility: Treating space heritage with respect underscores global responsibility. Collaboration on protecting these shared assets sets a precedent for addressing other global challenges, such as climate change or conflict resolution.

Space Debris Mitigation: Space debris threatens both space heritage and current space activities. International coordination to prevent collisions and reduce debris proliferation fosters shared responsibility and maintains peaceful space use.

Conflict Resolution Models: Preservation of space heritage can serve as a model for conflict resolution. Negotiation, compromise and adherence to international law in space can inspire similar approaches to global challenges, promoting peace and stability.

In conclusion, recognizing and protecting space heritage is a unifying endeavor that will safeguard our shared human legacy and set a precedent for peace.