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Prague Declaration on Small Satellite Regulation and Communication Systems

The participants to the ITU Symposium on Small Satellite Regulation and Communication Systems,

recognizing

- the increasingly growing interest by universities, educational and research institutes, governments, private industry, space agencies and radio amateurs, in utilizing the potential benefit offered by small satellites, in particular nano satellites and pico satellites;
- the urgent need for the small satellite community adherence to international laws, regulations and procedures, in particular those established by the UN General Assembly, the UN COPUOS and ITU in respect to registration of objects launched into outer space, radiofrequency coordination and registration of satellite network frequency assignments, and compliance with the space debris mitigation guidelines;
- the importance for small satellite community to be prepared for implementing existing and newly developing recommendations and practices supporting the long-term sustainability of outer space activities,

noting

the specific nature of small satellite space stations in the amateur-satellite service and the frequency coordination process within the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) to avoid harmful interference to amateur and amateur-satellite stations,

confirm and strengthen

the importance of implementing national legal and regulatory frameworks in conformity with the above international instruments, clearly defining rights and obligations of every stakeholder participating in small satellite initiatives,

urge

the small satellite community to comply with the applicable international and national laws, regulations and procedures, indispensable to guarantee the long-term sustainability of small satellite projects, the avoidance of harmful interference and proper management of space debris,

recommend

to continue capacity-building activities on small satellite regulation and communication systems, by regularly organizing symposia and workshops, including the use of web-based training tools, and by providing handbooks, guidelines and support, to facilitate the accomplishment of the above.