

ARTEMIS ACCORDS SIGNATORIES GROUP

Method of Operation

The Artemis Accords, established in 2020, are a practical set of non-binding principles, guidelines, and best practices grounded in the *Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies* (Outer Space Treaty), and other existing instruments such as the Registration Convention and Agreement on the Rescue and Return of Astronauts, to ensure safe, transparent, and sustainable civil space exploration. In signing the Artemis Accords, countries have committed to follow these principles, the implementation of which is designed to promote safe, sustainable, and transparent activities in space. Signing the Artemis Accords does not imply or initiate specific, cooperative space activities with or among other signatories, nor does doing so preclude any country from engaging in cooperative space activities with any other country, signatory or not.

Countries that have signed the Artemis Accords are actively working to define how best to implement the principles of the Artemis Accords and to define best practices for safe, transparent, and sustainable space exploration and use. The work of the Artemis Accords signatories can complement and inform multilateral discussions taking place within the United Nations (UN) Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and other international bodies.

The Artemis Accords signatories' group is open and inclusive, where all signatories share an equal and valued voice and participation is wholly voluntary. The goal of all discussions is consensus; however, Signatories may decline to participate or implement any output developed by the group. Policy discussions among the signatories will be informed and supported by technical considerations.

The Artemis Accords signatory group is considered to consist of senior leaders from each country (Principals, typically the head of national space agencies and/or senior ministry official or equivalent) and a working group of representatives assigned by the Principals. For ease of coordination, each country should assign a working group point of contact (POC).

The Artemis Accords Principals are envisioned to meet at least once annually, preferably during the International Astronautical Congress or another forum where many are already present (with the opportunity for virtual participation, where feasible). To facilitate the organization of the meeting, participating Principals will be identified at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Based on the successful practice of the past two years, the annual meeting is envisioned to have rotating co-chairs to assure the broadest representation and participation – recommended at three in total, one of whom is expected to host an interim, working-level workshop to prepare for the annual

meeting. The working-level workshop host will capture and disseminate meeting materials during the year they serve as hosts.

Each workshop and the related preparations will generally be co-led by the host country and a second signatory. In addition, interim meetings and forums may be offered for information sharing purposes or for continued development of best practices.

Recognizing the Artemis Accords principle of transparency and the overall objective of inclusivity, the Artemis Accords signatories group intends to seek opportunities to share information about its activities and output, either through UNCOPUOS or other appropriate means, with the concurrence of the signatories.

Information exchanged by Artemis Accords signatories should not be export controlled, proprietary, or otherwise sensitive. Any information or products provided to the Artemis Accords signatories should not be shared publicly without the concurrence of those involved.

The meetings and workshops are not open to the media.

This document may be modified by consensus of the Artemis Accords signatory group Principals.

DECIDED by consensus of the Artemis Accords signatory group principals at Milan, Italy, on October 14, 2024.