

**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE
66TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON
THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE
VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 31 MAY – 9 JUNE 2023**

AGENDA ITEM 4: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Thank you, Mr Chair.

1. Singapore congratulates you on your election. We would also like to thank the Acting Director of UNOOSA, Mr Niklas Hedman, and the Secretariat for the arrangements for this session.

Mr Chair,

2. As an emerging space player, Singapore continues to develop our local space ecosystem, and ramp up our capabilities across different areas. Today, we count more than 60 companies and several research centres of excellence in Singapore, employing more than 2,000 professionals and researchers. We are committed to building a pipeline of space talent for our ecosystem, from inspiring the youth and general public, to tailoring programmes for tertiary students for their first careers in the space industry. One example is the government-supported International Space Challenge (ISC), where students solve real world problems using space technologies. This year's theme was 'Climate Change'. Students participating in the advanced category were challenged to design a satellite mission to measure and monitor key climate change indicators. More than 3,000 participants from over 20 countries took part in the challenge.
3. As Singapore grows our industry and workforce, we will focus on developing space capabilities and applications to support domains such as aviation, maritime and sustainability, which are critical to Singapore and many other countries. In this regard, the S\$150M Space Technology Development Programme, established by our Office for Space Technology & Industry (OSTIn), was designed to support research in these areas. One example is OSTIn-funded research on using spaceborne Synthetic

Aperture Radar (SAR) and LiDAR observations to develop capabilities in carbon measurement, reporting and verification, which will strengthen Singapore's efforts to become a carbon services and trading hub and support decarbonisation efforts in the region. The recent launch of ST Engineering's first polarimetric synthetic aperture radar (PolSAR) satellite, TeLEOS-2 will additionally offer enhanced and wider coverage of many major shipping routes, as well as disaster-prone and forest-fire regions.

4. Singapore is also growing our international space engagements and partnerships. Since the 65th session of COPUOS last year, we have participated at space-related regional and international fora such as the 3rd Session of the UN Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Reducing Space Threats, the 4th Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development, the 3rd G20 Space Economy Leaders Meeting (Space20), the 73rd International Astronautical Congress (IAC), the 28th Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF), the ASEAN Sub-Committee for Space Technology and Applications (SCOSA), and the 15th Global Space and Technology Convention (GSTC) as well as the 5th Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) symposium, both hosted in Singapore. These platforms provide excellent opportunities for countries to connect, share information and learn from each other.
5. In addition to participating at such fora, Singapore has also made strides towards building our relationships with regional players, and we are keen to do more. In February this year, OSTIn signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA) of Thailand. We are also attending more events regionally, in the spirit of regional cooperation. Examples include our recent panel participation at the 15th Australian Space Forum, attendance at the Langkawi International Space Forum this year, and keynote address on "Trends and Opportunities in the Space Industry" at the Thailand Innovation Day 2022.
6. We recognise the importance of domestic regimes and systems in ensuring that both existing and new space endeavours are conducted in a responsible manner and in accordance with international law. Singapore values COPUOS as a useful platform to build our knowledge of the latest space

policy and regulation by learning from the experiences and best practices of other COPUOS members. In this respect, our participation at the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum's National Space Legislation Initiative over the past year has been informative.

Mr Chair,

7. COPUOS is a vital platform to foster dialogue and international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. Singapore strongly supports the discussions at COPUOS on the norms, rules and standards which apply to space activities. We seek to forge stronger cooperation with partners in our region and beyond, to encourage the peaceful and sustainable exploration of outer space for the benefit of humanity. We will continue to support efforts to promote an open, inclusive, and rules-based approach to the responsible use of space by all.

Thank you, Mr Chair.