

**Statement of Ukraine
at the 63-rd session of the LSC COPUOS on
8-th agenda item: Future role and method of work of the Committee.**

The Committee and its subsidiary bodies are the only platform in the UN system for a comprehensive discussion of issues related to the peaceful use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies. The use of modern space technologies without a proper legal basis can lead to unwanted disputes and torts in the international space legal order. Therefore, it is necessary to support close cooperation between the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee. Considering the intensification of the commercialization of space activities, rapid changes in space technologies, the need to maintain the relevance of space law in the context of the latest scientific and technical achievements in space activities, the importance of the Committee as a unique platform for the coordination of international cooperation in the use of outer space, is increasing. Also the importance of the Subcommittee as the main body at the international level, is one of the main foundations of a multilateral and stable approach to the development of international legal regulation of outer space.

The Ukrainian delegation has already accentuated the fact that the aggression suffered by Ukraine from the Russian Federation once again emphasizes the importance of the Committee's attention to ensuring and establishing the demilitarized status of outer space as a legal concept. In this context, attention should be paid to the information vulnerability of space equipment. Today, it is a fact that space infrastructure is one of the basic systems on which public and private important infrastructure on Earth is built.

This brings us to the issue of cyber security of critical space infrastructure. The problems of cyber security will become more significant in the future, as hacking and military technologies continue to develop, which allows attackers to find weak points in hardware and information protection, including spacecraft. In the context of the fact that the issue of cyber security is related to all activities in outer space, it would be appropriate for the legal subcommittee to work closely with the scientific and technical subcommittee.

Such cooperation will allow to analyze scientific and technical achievements in this field, to respond accordingly and exchange information and opinions on the protection of space assets and space systems, including infrastructure, with the aim of finding joint approaches to the protection of communications and space systems. For our part, we believe that the Committee should pay special attention to the issue of cyber security of space infrastructure. It is possible to convene an international conference under its auspices so that the opinions and positions of states and other subjects of space activity on this matter could be heard and investigated.

Given the growth in the number of subjects of space activity, the quality of space projects, the committee's attention should also be paid to the issue of legal

regulation of space traffic. An increase in the number of spacecraft increases the risk of their collisions. This, in turn, can lead to the inadvertent destruction of spacecraft, resulting in the formation of a large amount of space debris. It should be noted that the provisions of international space law, set forth in UN international treaties on space and in other documents that do not have binding legal force, are directly related to the management of space traffic and determine its basic rules. However, such documents do not cover all areas that are important for the effective management of space traffic. Moreover, those documents that do not have binding legal force are not directly applicable, which creates a gap in the matter of legal regulation. Therefore, the Committee should develop detailed regulations on these issues - possibly in the form of a separate United Nations space treaty on the regulation of space traffic and prevention of collisions in outer space.

Thank you for your attention.