

**Statement by Thailand on
Agenda item 6. Space Debris
The 61st Session of Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS
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Chair, Distinguished Delegates

With recognizing the urgency of space debris challenge, Thailand is actively participating in international efforts to mitigate the growth of space debris in Earth's orbit. Collaborative initiatives, such as the development and implementation of guidelines for responsible space activities, are being pursued to ensure that space actors adhere to best practices. Additionally, Thailand is exploring technologies and strategies aimed at debris removal and prevention to contribute to the overall safety of the orbital environment.

The development of space law in Thailand to support space debris mitigation is currently underway through a legislative process, guided by the principles outlined in the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space and the IADC space debris mitigation guidelines. It is anticipated that these legal frameworks will be fully integrated into Thailand's space policy by 2024, this year. Simultaneously, Thailand is formulating a comprehensive policy and operational plan dedicated to space surveillance awareness and space traffic management. The objective is to proactively monitor, mitigate, and reduce space debris throughout various stages, from early engagement to reentry phases. This multifaceted approach underscores Thailand's commitment to fostering a sustainable and responsible presence in outer space.

Thailand has set forth a comprehensive proposal aimed at bolstering its capabilities and advancing technology in the domains of space surveillance, tracking, and monitoring. This initiative encompasses the establishment of cutting-edge facilities, the continuous pursuit of scientific research, the development of pertinent technologies, and the implementation of measures dedicated to mitigating space debris. In doing so, Thailand is steadfastly aligning its national space activities with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines laid out by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). This strategic approach underscores Thailand's commitment to responsible space practices and ensuring the sustainability of its space endeavors in accordance with international standards.

In terms of ASEAN-level cooperation, Thailand and the Philippines stand as leaders in Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and Space Traffic Management (STM). The primary objective is to enhance capacity building. This involves empowering policy makers, decision-makers, academia, the security sector, and industry stakeholders within ASEAN to comprehend the concepts of SSA/STM and appreciate their implications on their respective sectors. The second objective centers on fostering collaboration, as experts and researchers from Thailand and the Philippines will engage in an exchange and joint efforts in SSA/STM areas. The overarching impact of this collaborative project is to establish outer space as a secure and safe center or regional platform for and among ASEAN Member States. A consequential outcome is the emergence of the ASEAN region as a pivotal player in space situational awareness and space traffic management (SSA/STM), facilitated by human resources and an integrated Space Science and Technology infrastructure (SST).

Thailand remains committed to playing a proactive role in finding sustainable solutions to address the burgeoning space debris crisis and secure the sustainability of space activities for generations to come.

Thank you Chair and Distinguished Delegates.
