

Statement delivered by  
H.E. Mr. KIM Kwang Sop, Ambassador  
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the  
Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the  
United Nations and other International  
Organizations in Vienna  
at the UNISPACE+50 high level segment

June 2 , 2018

Distinguished delegates!

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea extends warm congratulations to the significant opening of UNISPACE+50 High-level Segment in Vienna, Austria, as decided by the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. We are pleased with our attendance at this segment.

Peaceful use of outer space is a matter of the utmost importance related to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the last 50 years since 1968 when the first UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was held, the dedicated efforts of humanity to conquer outer space and use it for their socio-economic benefits have achieved remarkable progress.

Many countries, attaching importance to space development for their national development, are actively participating in space utilization and directing their efforts to independent development of space science and technology.

Today, the total number of states who launched satellites into outer space, has reached into 57.

Space development makes outer space closely linked with human life, and the role of space science and technology in many

spheres of social life including telecommunication, weather and navigation, is further growing.

Our country is actively engaged in space development activities in accordance with its space policy which reflects the unanimous will of our people.

Our purpose for space development is to improve the country's economy and the people's living standard and our principle is to maintain independent and self-reliant character of space development.

The DPRK embarked on its space development from the 1980s and has achieved steady progress while building self-reliant material and technical basis thanks to the painstaking studies and efforts of its space scientists and technicians for several decades. As a result, it launched its first artificial satellite in 1998 and the "Kwangmyongsong 3-2" in 2012, thus became one of the proud 10-space powers.

With the adoption of the Law on Space Development in 2013, it established an integral system to guide and manage preparation, implementation, supervision and control of the space development plan in a unified way, thus, it is actively pushing forward space development in accordance with the long-term national plan.

Comrade **Kim Jong Un**, Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, said that space science and space industry are criteria for judging the overall strength of a country and we should manufacture and launch more satellites of various purposes by our own efforts and technology.

Our space scientists and technicians are filled with firm resolve and self-confidence to achieve the goals of the five-year (2016-2020) Plan for the National Aerospace Development by launching more developed application satellites of various kinds in the future.

The DPRK is faithfully performing its legitimate rights and duties as a state party to major space-related conventions such as “Outer Space Treaty”, “Rescue Agreement”, “Liability Convention” and “Registration Convention”.

In recent years, we informed the international organizations of launching “Kwangmyongsong” series satellites before their launching in accordance with the regulations and procedures of international laws and registered them in the UN Registry after their launching.

It is our consistent stand that outer space must be used for the peaceful purpose only and we will continue to respect the

international laws on the peaceful exploration and uses of outer space.

The DPRK supports the “Space 2030 agenda”, the main goal of which is to strengthen international cooperation of space science and technology and improve space infrastructure for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The DPRK will actively join in the international efforts for their implementation.

I express my belief that all the participating countries will achieve the goals in the “Space 2030 Agenda” and strengthen international cooperation on the principles of equality and mutual benefits, thus contribute to the promotion of welfare of humanity.

Thank you.