

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA AT THE  
HIGH- LEVEL SEGMENT OF UNISPACE + 50 ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE 61<sup>ST</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE, VIENNA 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2018**

Madam Chair,

My delegation would like to congratulate you on your appointment as the Chair and the other members for their elections to the bureau of the 61<sup>st</sup> session of Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Malaysia wishes to assure you and members of the bureau of its full support and cooperation in ensuring a successful outcome of this session.

2. Malaysia associates itself with the statement of the Group of 77 and China and would like to make the following the remarks in its national capacity.

3. Malaysia highly appreciates the commemoration of UNISPACE+50, which offers a unique opportunity for Member States to take stock of the past, present and future outlook of global space activities and cooperation. We are hopeful that our exchanges of views through this significant event can pave ways towards strengthening the role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies as well as the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat as the unique platform to promote international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

Madam Chair,

4. Malaysia fully recognizes that space science and technology and their application play a significant role towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Malaysia also recognizes the benefits of space technology and application in various sectors. These activities jointly organised by COPUOS and Member States as well as other stakeholders have proven to be effective in increasing our awareness on ways to realizing the potential of space sector for the benefit of humanity, specifically, in the areas of earth observation and disaster response, global health, as well as educational activities.

5. In line with our aims to have access and utilize fully the space capabilities, Malaysia has approved the National Space Policy 2030 in 2017 which underlines five major thrusts as follows:

- 5.1 First, Malaysia recognises the need to strengthen the governance to optimize the access to space capabilities. We stress the importance of the United Nations legal instruments on outer space in upholding the principles of equal and non-discriminatory access to outer space for peaceful purposes for all States irrespective of their level of scientific, technical and economic development. Malaysia firmly believes that it is vital to have an effective legal and administrative framework in ensuring a sustainable space development as well as peaceful exploration and use of

outer space. In meeting our obligations under the international space treaties, Malaysia has established the National Space Committee and who is involved in drafting the National Outer Space Act in order to better coordinate, monitor and supervise national space activities effectively in accordance with international law.

- 5.2 Second, Malaysia recognises that three focus areas of the space sector namely remote sensing, communications and navigation can help and contribute towards planning and management of natural resources and environment, weather and climate prediction, the search and rescue (SAR), disaster management, infrastructure monitoring, mapping, navigation and safety. Malaysia's space endeavour has progressed significantly through the launching of its third Malaysian Earth observation satellite, RazakSAT-2, a facility complex which aims to provide regional and global space community with satellite manufacturing and testing services. Malaysia joins other space community nations to contribute information and knowledge towards minimizing and eliminating the imminent threats from space. Among these initiatives include:
- The establishment of Langkawi National Observatory;
  - The development of Malaysia Space Environment & Satellite Application Centre (My-SES); .
  - Participation in the International Center for Space Weather Science and Education (ICSWSE) in the MAGDAS project (MAGnetic Data Acquisition System);
  - The establishment of a national research and development "Continuously Operating Reference Station" (CORS) Network.

Malaysia looks forward to strengthening cooperation with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and various stakeholders in promoting access to programs that can support the attraction of investment, research and innovation.

- 5.3 Third, Malaysia recognises the importance of training and human resources capacity building as the key element in accelerating development of the space science and technology. We look forward to continuing close engagement and cooperation between research institutions and industries with the aim to build more expertise in space sector and to increase educational awareness programs on the importance of space sciences, technology and innovation. Therefore, Malaysia supports the need to enhance the role and the capacity of Regional Centres for Space Science and Technology Education and UN-SPIDER.

- 5.4 Fourth, Malaysia recognises the contribution of space sector to the economy and nation's prosperity. Malaysia organised the first Space Entrepreneurship Symposium on 5 October 2017, with the aim to

encourage government officials, academicians and industry players to brainstorm potential space business ideas to drive the space industry in Malaysia. We look forward to fully tap the economic benefits of space science and technology, which is estimated to reach RM 5.6 billion by 2020, through the development of a national space industry strategic plan.

- 5.5 Fifth, Malaysia recognizes the importance of strengthening global partnership and cooperation among Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities in fulfilling global initiatives including: the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. At the international level, Malaysia is actively involved in scientific collaborations in enhancing our capability and capacity in earth protection from space activities. Malaysia is a member of SENTINEL ASIA, a Data Analysis Node (DAN), aims to promote international cooperation to monitor natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region. Malaysia has continuously involved with the International Space Weather Initiative (ISWI) and collaborated with many international partners to address major environmental challenges including flooding, marine pollution, haze and illegal logging.

Malaysia welcomes the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+ 50, which intends to set future direction for “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan. Malaysia looks forward to exploring potential cooperation opportunities which could complement its national space capabilities.

Madam Chair,

6. As a responsible space player, Malaysia remains committed to support the international legal framework for ensuring the peaceful exploration and use of outer space and will ratify the international space treaties and instruments. Malaysia recognises the challenges of space debris and the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of outer space activities. We fully support the work of the Working Group on Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities and look forward to its successful and timely conclusion.

Thank you.