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Brazil, item 12

General Exchange of Views on the Legal Aspects of Space Traffic Management

-X-X-X-

Madam Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor.

The conduct of activities in outer space requires operators to conduct their activities in line with the existing international space treaties, laws, principles and guidelines as way to ensure that space remains sustainable and free from conflict. This is a principle that guides the Brazilian space program.

Since 2020, the Brazilian Space Agency has been actively engaged in creating the conditions to allow space launch activities to be carried out from Brazilian territory, particularly through the Alcantara Space Center. In that regard, we see space traffic management as a fundamental and highly relevant component of the planning, design and conduct of space launch operations, the safe operation of space objects in Earth orbit and their end-of-life disposal.

Given the growing complexity and the multiplication of space actors and operation, we feel that this Subcommittee, together with the STSC, should consider approaches that would lead to the creation of an international system or mechanism to harmonize space situational awareness and space traffic management practices and approaches that could be used by all Member States of COPUOS. The lack of internationally agreed standards and approaches to SSA/STM is a matter of serious concern, not only because of the possibility of collisions or interference between space objects, but also because in the absence of information, the interpretation of incidents will be left to perceptions and misperceptions.

In that regard, the creation of an international SSA/STM mechanism could play an important role in promoting greater transparency and building confidence among space actors. In addition, it would contribute to raising awareness of the issue among new players, who could then learn from the experiences and practices of

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traditional spacefaring States and contribute to preserving space as a sustainable environment.

Thank you, Madam Chair.