

**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE  
57<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE  
VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 3 – 14 FEBRUARY 2020**

Ms Simonetta Di Pippo, UNOOSA Director,

Ms Natália Archinard, STSC Chair,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1 On behalf of the Singapore delegation, I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating Ms Natália Archinard on your election as the Chair of the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

2 We thank delegations that have congratulated Singapore, along with Dominican Republic and Rwanda, for joining the ranks of COPUOS member states, which now number 95. **Like many other countries, Singapore depends on outer space to support important civilian and government functions**, such as urban planning, weather monitoring, telecommunications both at land and at sea, especially along critical sea lines of communication, as well as peace support and disaster relief operations. **As a new member of COPUOS, Singapore looks forward to contributing constructively to its work and that of its Sub-Committees.**

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

3 **The STSC plays an important role in promoting the peaceful uses and long-term sustainability of space activities**, notably with the drafting of the 21 voluntary guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities (LTS). Singapore joins others in welcoming the adoption of the preamble and 21 voluntary guidelines by COPUOS in June 2019, and subsequently by the UN General Assembly later that year. As Singapore reviews our domestic governance framework for outer space issues, we look forward to hearing the progress and learning from the experiences of our fellow COPUOS members in the practical implementation of the LTS guidelines.

4 **Singapore shares the vision of harnessing the potential of space to improve lives, create new opportunities for our businesses and countries, and benefit all of humankind.** The establishment of the working group on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and its deliberations, as well as those on the “Space2030” Agenda will help chart our path to realise this common vision. Singapore looks forward to participating constructively in this process.

Singapore’s space-related activities

5 **I will now share Singapore’s activities in space. Singapore is engaged in a wide range of space-related activities – from the design and manufacture of space components to the provision of satellite-based services.** In 2003, Singapore embarked on our first space programme to develop a locally-built satellite, the X-SAT. Ten years later, the formation of the Office for Space Technology and Industry (OSTIn) in 2013 under the Singapore Economic Development Board was part of our government’s efforts to support companies and economic growth in the space industry. The X-SAT’s success led to the formation of a new satellite company ST Electronics (Satellite Systems) which led to Singapore’s first commercial Earth Observation satellite, the TeLEOS-1 in 2015. The TeLEOS-2, a SAR mini-satellite that will be able to provide day and night all-weather imaging, is due to be launched in 2022.

6 **Singapore has a vibrant scientific community which has been actively engaged in space-related research.** Research institutes such as the Nanyang Technological University’s Satellite Research Centre (NTU-SaRC) and the National University of Singapore’s Satellite Technology and Research Centre (STAR) have collaborated closely with international research institutes and space agencies, including Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology and UK Science and Technology Facilities Council’s RAL Space, particularly on small satellite research. **We are also exploiting disruptive space technologies.** In 2019, the Centre for Quantum Technologies (CQT) at the National University of Singapore deployed the “SpooQy-1” into Low Earth Orbit from the International Space Station (ISS). It will conduct tests and demonstrate “quantum entanglement” which will have the potential to unlock quantum communications in the next decade.

7        **Madam Chair, Singapore is committed to the objectives and purpose of COPUOS and seeks to forge stronger cooperation with partners in our region and beyond, and to encourage the responsible and peaceful use and exploration of outer space for the benefit of humanity.** Singapore strongly supports the UN's continuing efforts to strengthen the open and inclusive international regime governing outer space activities. **We also support mechanisms and initiatives that promote safety, prevent conflict, and support a rules-based approach to the responsible use of space by all nations and stakeholders that ensure access to all.** As the world becomes increasingly reliant on infrastructure and applications located in outer space, it is important that outer space norms and treaties keep pace with the latest technological advances.

8        Thank you, Madam Chair.

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