Statement by the Representative

of the Republic of Korea

at the 64th session of UN COPUOS

31 August 2021

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Delegates,

Over the past year, the rapid spread of COVID-19 across national borders has disrupted everyday life around the world to the point of being an unprecedented crisis. At the same time, we have learned the valuable lesson that this global crisis cannot be overcome by the efforts or will of a single country alone. The COVID-19 crisis now threatens to turn back humanity's range of perspective to the limited scope of decades past. All over the world, voices calling for the transformation

of these challenges into opportunities for better recovery are gaining ground.

In this context, the Space2030 agenda is an important achievement. The Republic of Korea supports the adoption of the Space2030 agenda in this 64th session of UN COPUOS. All member states here agree that space technology should make a contribution to improving the quality of life. In particular, to respond to the COVID-19 crisis, member states should make commitments and efforts to carry out the Space2030 Agenda. It is also important to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that leave no one behind.

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Delegates,

Korea has established a roadmap to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and also participated in international efforts. For the four objectives of the Space2030 agenda, Korea is implementing several policies related each objective.

First, Korea is expanding the economic contribution of space activities and increasing the role of space technology for sustainable development (SDGs). In order to widen the economic contribution of space activities, the Korean government is transferring public research institution's space technology to the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises, and has implemented policies such as "Korea Space Industry Strategy" and "Small Satellite Development Roadmap" to promote the space industry.

Second, Korea is improving the quality of life by using space technology to solve social problems. We sent 17 satellites into the orbit. Nine of them ended their mission, and eight of them are being used to ensure our safety and promote prosperity through broadcasting, communication, land and environmental management. In addition, Korea supports the use of satellite information by developing satellite data information utilization technology and building a user-centered platform. We plan to further expand the infrastructure of satellite image use to solve global social problems such as climate change.

Third, Korea is making efforts to ensure everyone enjoys the benefits of space science and technology. We are contributing to capacity building by running the KARI International Space Training program (KARIST). Since 2010, we have invited researchers from emerging countries to share Korea's experiences such as the production of satellites, the utilization of satellite images, and the commercial

use of remote sensing. In particular, we are going to make special efforts to

expand women's participation in space activities, strengthening STEM

capabilities and creating jobs for women.

Fourth, for peaceful use of outer space, Korea will continue to join the

COPUOS's voyage as a responsible member of the international community. For

sustainability of space activities, the Korea government operates a research team

for the national implementation of LTS guidelines to participate in safe and

sustainable space activities. Korea will find best practices and actively share its

experiences and know-how to put a stepping stone to the sustainability of outer

space.

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Delegates,

In the COVID-19 era, the implementation of the Space2030 agenda is not

within the scope of a single country. We should make collaborative efforts to

ensure that all of us here can enjoy the benefits of space technology. As a

responsible member of COPUOS, Korea pledges to play its part as the world

embarks on a collective journey to build back better.

Thank you. /END/