

Indonesia, Item 4

Mr. Chairman,
Director of the Office of Outer Space Affairs,
Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Let me begin by congratulating the Bureau of 2020/2021, Mr. Marius-Ioan Piso from Romania as the Chair and Mr Francis Chizea from Nigeria as the 1st Vice Chair as well as Mr. Ricardo Gil Ochoa from Colombia as the 2nd Vice-Chair/Rapporteur of this Committee.

I fervently believe that under your able leadership, this Session will continue to serve as a forum organization, with relevant observers, to discuss and bridge important issues within the framework of cooperation for peaceful purposes.

Let us also extend our most sincere thanks and appreciation to the Bureau of 2018/2019, particularly for their guidance in advancing the efforts of the Committee. My delegation wishes all of them good health and wisdom in their new works.

My delegation would also like to commend the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo and the Secretariat for the excellent preparations made during the course of our session.

My delegation has followed with great attention the statement made by the Chair, reviewing the development of the work of the Committee since its sixty-second session. We therefore would like to express appreciation for the work of the UNOOSA and all parties for supporting and carrying out the work which, in turn, facilitates our consideration of the issues of concern during the course of our present session.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation reaffirms the importance of implementation of UNGA Resolution 74/82 on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. This resolution inter alia urges all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space. The resolution also mandates that this Committee, as a matter of priority, to continue its consideration on ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes. Further, the resolution states the central role of the Office in promoting international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

My delegation takes note of the reports of the STSC and LSC. We appreciate the works and progress by both Subcommittees, and hope that future deliberations will reach common solutions.

Regarding the long-term sustainability of space activities (LTS), Indonesia welcome and congratulating Mr. Umamaheswaran R. (India) as Chair of the Working Group on LTS. Indonesia hopes that new working group should continue its deliberation on the unresolved issues as well as the implementation of the LTS Guidelines.

With respect to Definition and Delimitation, Indonesia stresses the importance to clarify the boundaries between airspace and outer space to achieve legal certainty of the implementation of space law and air law.

Furthermore, we reaffirm our position on Geostationary Orbit as a limited natural resource with special characteristics, which should be utilized in a rational, balanced, efficient, and equitable manner. The exploitation of GSO without considering those principles will risk saturation. GSO should be considered as a specific area and special part of outer space which needs specific technical and legal governance. We are of the view that the utilization of GSO need to be regulated by a sui generis regime.

Mr. Chair,

With regard the activities related to international cooperation in the field of outer space, we would like to inform that in 2022 Indonesia will host the 4th Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCAP and Space Economy Leaders Meeting (Space20).

Cooperation with Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere, Kyoto University of JAPAN (RISH) on the study of equatorial atmosphere dynamics has been conducted for more than 20 years. The Equatorial Atmosphere Radar and related instruments have been installed in Indonesian territory and used for collaborative study. To celebrate 20th Anniversary, LAPAN and RISH will conduct International Symposium in September 2021.

Indonesia is supporting the international effort on preserving the night sky. Indonesia is preparing the new observatory site in NTT Province as the dark sky preserving area, both for scientific endeavor, as well as on economic improvement for the surrounding area.

To conclude, Mr. Chair, allow me to reiterate the Government of Indonesia's aspiration, as an active member of the Committee, that outer space should be solely used for peaceful purposes for the benefit of humankind of all nations.

We look forward to a productive and substantive exchange of views among the distinguished representatives on this issue, with a view to exploring the need for various means in identifying gaps, as well as addressing the way forward for further deliberations.

I thank you.

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