

Finland's Statement in the 65th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space Vienna, 1 June – 10 June 2022, Agenda Item 7 – Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

We thank H.E Ambassador Juan Francisco Facetti of Paraguay for his excellent leadership in conducting the session despite the challenges posed by the hybrid format.

We recognize the importance of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee as an indispensable forum for the exchange of views on scientific and technical aspects of outer space activities and for fostering international cooperation in this regard.

Mr. Chair,

International cooperation forms a firm foundation of Finnish space activities. Finland is a member of the European Space Agency (ESA) since 1995, and the Finnish industry and research organisations participate actively in various ESA programmes. In this framework, also the EU Space Programme and other multilateral and bilateral collaborations continue to have an important role in the Finnish space programme.

Finland's national climate targets are ambitious and Finland promotes the role of space solutions in combatting climate change. Space data plays a key role in monitoring the environmental changes and the key variables such as greenhouse gases, as well as in reacting to natural disasters.

Finally Mr Chair,

Finland welcomes the adoption of the preamble and 21 guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities by the Committee in 2019, and their subsequent endorsement by the General Assembly, with great appreciation. We were pleased with the progress made during the fifty-ninth session.

Finland is fully committed to implementing the 21 guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, and we are taking actions at both national and international levels. In this respect, we wish to mention that Finland and Switzerland organised the second edition of a workshop dedicated to implementation of the 21 guidelines on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities in January. This workshop aimed to provide an informal setting for European States to exchange their views and to share their experiences with respect to the implementation of the LTS Guidelines. We find that such exchanges could contribute to developing a common understanding on ensuring sustainable future for space activities by all actors, at all levels.

Thank you Mr Chair.