



STATEMENT
ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
AT THE 66TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE (COPUOS)
ON AGENDA ITEM 4: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS
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DELIVERED BY:
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Mr. Chair!
Dear heads of delegations!
Ladies and gentleman!

First, I would like to thank Acting Director Niklas Hedman and the UNOOSA team for organizing the 66th session of COPUOS at such a high level. I would also like to thank Chair for your work and coordination of the session. We also appreciate the congratulations of all Member countries on Uzbekistan's membership in the Committee.

The scientific achievements of Uzbekistan historically had a profound impact in the world. The works of famous Mirzo Ulugbek helped to lay the foundation for modern astronomy and space science. Abu Rayhan Beruni, Ahmad al-Fargani, and Muhammad Musa al-Khwarizmi, among many other Uzbek scientists who made significant contributions to the fields of astronomy, geography, and trigonometry. Even now, their contributions continue to be studied and used by scientists around the world.

In the second half of the 20th century Uzbekistan played crucial part in Union's Space program. Uzbekistan was home to several important space research and development facilities which participated in several successful space missions, including the launch of the Mir space station, Lunar and Venus programs.

Uzbekistan is a country that is undergoing reforms in all spheres of life. Under the visionary leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, we have adopted ambitious strategies and programs to transform our economy, society, and

governance into a modern, innovative, and competitive one. The Government of Uzbekistan has also prioritized the development of space technologies and their implementation as one of key driver of progress and prosperity. As a result, national space agency started its activities starting from 2020.

Today, Space Agency's main goals are to develop national space policy, infrastructure, and capabilities, to enhance our scientific research and education in space-related disciplines, to foster international cooperation and partnerships in space exploration and utilization, and to promote the peaceful use of outer space for the benefit of humanity.

Uzbekistan government appreciates the potential of space technologies. I would like to mention successful implementation of state space monitoring program in several sectors of the economy on a country scale which is currently assisting to obtain independent and valuable analytics for the benefit of the country in agriculture, ecology, forestry, geology and land management. With lack of water resources, space monitoring is playing important role in usage optimization of water not only in our country but in whole Central Asian region.

We have also successfully launched usage of SAR data to monitor critical infrastructure such as dams, energy infrastructure and many more.

Building local capacity and increasing awareness on using space technologies among population are especially important for emerging space countries like Uzbekistan. In this regard, Uzbekspace agency launched several education projects in the country, one of which includes launching a CubeSat by students. The CubeSat project will provide students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in space engineering and technology. It will also help to raise awareness of the importance of space exploration and development among the public. We are confident that these education projects will help to build a strong foundation for Uzbekistan's future in space.

As our successful initiatives I would like to mention establishment of annual Space Technology Conference for the Central Eurasian region which has been held in Tashkent for the past two years. The main goal of the conference is to become a regional platform for the space related topics in rapidly developing region of Central Eurasia and encourage interested sides to use this growing platform for networking and participate in discussions for the sustainable development of the region in the upcoming years.

Mr. Chair,

We recognize that international cooperation is essential to the advancement of space exploration and development. We are committed to deepening our international space engagements and partnerships. In line with becoming a member of UN COPUOS, in 2021, we became a member of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development of UN ESCAP. We are also engaged in productive collaboration within the framework of the Organization of Turkic States and CIS. We signed agreements at different levels with Azerbaijan, France, India, Kazakhstan, and Republic of Korea to collaborate

on initiatives relating to space technologies, applications, and downstream services in remote sensing and related fields. We believe that these partnerships will enable us to achieve our shared goals of space exploration and development, and to benefit from the many opportunities that space offers to our countries and our people.

Uzbekistan fully supports international laws, including the peaceful use of outer space, in connection with which the Agency is currently working on the ratification of international space treaties.

Mr. Chair,

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that as a new member of the Committee, Uzbekistan is committed to the peaceful and sustainable exploration and use of outer space. We believe that space technology offers tremendous opportunities for economic growth, social development, and environmental protection. We are keen to collaborate with foreign countries that share our vision and values, and can offer their expertise, technology, and investment in this sector.

Being new to UN COPUOS, we hope to learn the best practices and experiences of peaceful utilizing space technology capacities for the benefit of the country in all aspects of the sector, including regulatory, licensing, standardization, remote sensing, and other applications.

We believe that the exploration, exploitation, and utilization of outer space are best coordinated at international level. We are confident that UN COPUOS can play a leading role in this regard.

I wish everyone an interesting and fruitful session. Thank you Chair.