

Statement of Ukraine on the 14-th issue of the agenda Future role and method of work of the Committee

Distinguished Mr. Chair!

Distinguished delegates!

The Committee and its subsidiary bodies are the only platform in the UN system for comprehensive discussion of issues related to the peaceful use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies. Given the increasing use of modern space technologies, the importance of the Committee as a unique platform for coordinating international cooperation in the peaceful use of outer space and as the main international body dealing with issues related to space activities should be increasing. Therefore, we believe it is important to further deepen cooperation between the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee within the framework of the Committee's work, including in the context of cybersecurity issues related to outer space activities.

Given the growing number of space activity entities and the quality of space projects, we should also pay attention to the issues of legal regulation of space traffic within the Committee's work.

Today, space assets have become an integral part of the national security strategies of most states. The announced projects that are being implemented or have been implemented in 2023 show that states are increasingly including outer space and space technologies in their strategic and tactical-technical plans.

So far, the Outer Space Treaty as a space constitution and the four other space treaties that form the body of the modern space legal order have managed to keep outer space free of military confrontations. However, the deformation of international law due to the actions of the Russian Federation, in particular, emphasizes the importance of updating the existing norms by streamlining them and aligning them with existing and future relations in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

The current stage clearly demonstrates that the development of actual relations in the exploration and use of outer space has surpassed the level of legal regulation laid down in the five UN treaties on outer space. That is why the role of the Committee is of great relevance, as it is a forum for the exchange of views and the development of legal, scientific and technical discourses reflecting the development of activities related to the peaceful use of outer space in general and international space law in particular. We would also welcome the

increased role of the Committee on Outer Space in maintaining the peaceful uses of outer space.

The introduction of new space actors and the growing presence of the private sector shows that space is no longer just a political sphere of state activity, but on the other hand, it makes space a more controversial arena of ambitions, interests, and goals.

For the stability of the international space order and its development, as well as for the sound national public management of space activities, there is a need to strengthen joint efforts at the level of the Committee among all relevant concerned parties. The goal of such efforts is to ensure that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, is carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, regardless of their level of economic or scientific development.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.