

## **Agenda Item : General Exchange of Views**

### **Republic of Korea National Statement**

#### **Sixty-Seventh Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**June 19, 2024**

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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Korea, I extend our warm congratulations to you (Mr. Sherif Mohamed Sedky) on your election as Chair. We believe that your experience as the head of the Egyptian Space Agency will lead this Committee to make significant strides, and we assure you of the Republic of Korea's unwavering support.

We also wish to express our sincere appreciation to the outgoing Chair (Mr. Omran Sharaf) for his exceptional leadership during challenging global circumstances. Lastly, we extend our gratitude to the Director of the UNOOSA, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, and the Secretariat for their tireless efforts in preparing for this session.

Mr. Chair,

The Republic of Korea strongly condemns the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's latest launch of so-called military reconnaissance

satellite on May 27<sup>th</sup>. This act is in flagrant violation of multiple Security Council resolutions that prohibit all launches using ballistic missile technology. It is truly deplorable that the DPRK has chosen the course of provocations, defying united and consistent demand of the international community.

As the DPRK has done several times in the past, it is possible that they may attempt to manipulate UN bodies, including this Committee and UNOOSA, to shield and legitimize its unlawful and prohibited launching activities. Since the DPRK has vowed to launch more satellites this year, we must remain vigilant and avoid playing into the hands of the DPRK.

The Republic of Korea strongly urges the DPRK to halt all provocative actions that undermine the international legal regime governing outer space and hinder the peaceful uses of outer space.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

While taking these concerns seriously, our collective efforts to preserve outer space for peaceful purposes should continue.

We are living in a new space era where space activities are indispensable in every aspect of our lives. Moreover, space domain is evolving rapidly as private companies are leading innovation in space with more economic feasibility.

To meet the challenges and opportunities of this new space era, we are proud to announce that the Korea Aerospace Administration (KASA), with its affiliated institutions; the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI) and the Korea Astronomy and Space Science Institute (KASI), was officially established on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

The establishment of this dedicated aerospace agency is not just about creating a new government organization but represents our government's bold endeavor to seek future growth opportunities in space. With the opening of KASA, we aim to join the international efforts led by the space industry, demonstrating our commitment to innovation and international cooperation in this new era of space exploration.

In this regard, KASA has established specific strategies focusing on four major technology areas: space transportation, satellites, space exploration, and future aviation, along with three foundational areas: industry, innovation, and international cooperation.

KASA will spearhead the initiative to enhance the capability of our space launch vehicle KSLV-II, called Nuri, and develop next generation space launch vehicle, KSLV-III.

KASA will also lead a variety of other important space-related projects. These projects would encompass developing a compact reusable launch vehicle system, establishing a maritime launch platform; designing ultra-high-resolution satellites; and venturing into deep space exploration such as Mars, asteroids and Lagrange Points.

Before closing, I would like to briefly highlight examples of our commitment to international cooperation. On June 18th, the Republic of Korea hosted a luncheon for the “UN Conference on Sustainable Lunar Activities” to celebrate opening of KASA and share our vision on lunar missions. Also, on June 25<sup>th</sup>, we will sponsor and participate in the side event, “Reflections on the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Lunar Activities.” We believe these events provide a valuable platform for candid dialogue on sustainable lunar exploration, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in achieving long-term sustainability in outer space.

Mr. Chair,

The Republic of Korea stands committed to active engagement in this meeting, aiming to make meaningful contributions to the deliberations concerning the peaceful use of outer space. We look forward to constructive discussions and a fruitful outcome.

Thank you.