

67th SESSION OF UN COPUOS
Agenda Item No. 05 – General Exchange of Views
Delivered by Deputy Director General Denis F. Villorente
Philippine Space Agency

Mr. Chair,

The Philippines extends its utmost appreciation to the UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) for the successful conduct of this year's 67th Session of UN COPUOS. We welcome the Chairmanship of Mr. Sherif Sedky of Egypt. Please be assured of the Philippine delegation's full cooperation and active participation in the 67th Session of the UN COPUOS.

The Philippines remains committed to the five (5) outer space treaties and highlights our full support towards their universalization that connotes effective treaty implementation and compliance with all legal obligations of the parties involved.

It is my honor to inform you and the distinguished delegates that the Philippines has recently acceded to the 'Registration Convention'. The accession is a milestone that illustrates the country's dedication to abide by international law and to express its full interest to pursue the peaceful use of outer space. As a demonstration of our commitment even before the Philippines' accession, the country has already registered multiple nanosatellites with the UN Register of Space Objects Launched into Outer Space.

Along with our commitment to abide and adhere to the international principles and norms is to approach it on various levels that promotes the five (5) UN outer space treaties. We have programs even for the primary education level to nurture the minds of future generations on the importance of space science, technology, and law and that outer space is for all mankind.

Internationally, the Philippines is delighted to note the momentous inclusion of outer space in **Our Common Agenda**, under **Policy Brief 7**, titled as **For all humanity: The future of Outer Space Governance**.

We are pleased to inform the Committee of the inclusion of outer space in the country's National Security Strategy. Our open and inclusive policies underscore the critical role of outer space using space-based assets and emerging technologies in the protection and promotion of our national interests.

Mr. Chair,

As a nascent space-faring nation, we continue to recognize the importance of utilizing the relevant platforms and mechanisms of diplomacy and international cooperation in developing our country's space science and technology application (SSTA), as well as to underscore its critical role in ensuring peace and sustainability in outer space.

We thank the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), European Space Agency (ESA) and other partners for continuously working with the PhilSA to further the development of SSTA through research, innovation and data sharing.

We take this opportunity to inform the Committee that the Philippines and the United States held its inaugural Space Dialogue last month, with the objective of strengthening our cooperation in civil space matters. We thank the United States for hosting the dialogue.

We would like to also share that we recently signed the implementing agreement on the Advanced Land Observing Satellite-2 (ALOS-2) with JAXA, a partnership that aims to jointly carry out the research activities for satellite data application and development to support monitoring of the environment and the natural disasters in the Philippines.

On our partnership with ESA, we are making progress in implementation of the Copernicus Space Component Technical Operating Arrangement (CTOA). We will continue to harness engagements with other countries to support our shared goals and commitments as we leap towards advancement in SSTA.

We also thank UNOOSA for organizing the UN Philippines Workshop on the Applications of Global Navigation Satellite Systems, held on April 22-24, 2024 in Manila. The workshop, co-organized by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems, our National Mapping and Resource Information Authority, and the PhilSA, was an effective venue to discuss current GNSS technology trends and uses, and case studies for valuable learning of the participants.

Mr. Chair,

On the topic of sustainability in outer space, the Philippines affirms its commitment to contribute to the sustainability of outer space activities through the Space2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Our delegation will elaborate on this further in our statements for Agenda Items no. 09 and 16.

In closing, the Philippines remains responsive to the current needs and challenges of the global community in space. We believe that international cooperation coupled with space

science and technology will lead the way towards sustainable development and innovation that would in turn benefit all of humankind.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.