Mr. Chair!

I am honored to address the 67th session of the Committee on behalf of Uzbekistan. I congratulate you on your election as Chair of the Committee. I also congratulate Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini on her appointment as the Director of the UN OOSA.

As an emerging space country, Uzbekistan continues to develop space sector. I am pleased to report that the accession to the Outer Space Treaty and approval of Uzbekistan’s Space Law is at the final stage of review by our parliament, the Oliy Majlis.

We are also fostering academic research and nurturing the next generation highly-qualified specialists and engineers together with partner universities. Our initiatives to support youth interested in space research and technology are designed to build a strong foundation for future advancements in this sector.

After three years of dedicated efforts, we have successfully launched the state space monitoring program in 2023, which is being scaled to country-level in 2024. This program is dedicated to provide a country-level solutions through the utilization of space applications, such as remote sensing and GIS. These advancements reflect our progress in leveraging space technologies for sustainable development and improving our environmental monitoring capabilities. Detailed information about the program will be provided during our technical presentation.
Mr. Chair,

On the international and regional level, Uzbekspace Agency is actively engaged in collaborative efforts. Within the UN ESCAP, we are involved in the Virtual Satellite Constellation for pre-disaster risk management project. Within the Organization of Turkic States, we are working on a joint CubeSat project and organizing space camps to inspire and educate young minds in cooperation with the member and observing states.

Apart from that, we are working closely with the Azercosmos on a joint project dedicated to monitoring the effects of climate change using remote sensing and GIS technologies. These collaborative efforts are crucial for addressing shared challenges and advancing our collective capabilities.

Mr. Chair,

Uzbekistan has several forward-looking initiatives that we are eager to pursue. In order to enhance the region’s capabilities in space science and technology through education and training, we propose the establishment of UN-affiliated Center for Space Science and Technology Education in Central Asia, based in Uzbekistan.

Beyond that, considering a huge negative impact of the Aral Sea crisis on ecological situation and extremely high water stress in the region, we see crucial role of space technologies in managing water resources and reducing the destructive impact of the Aral Sea crisis on the ecosystems and livelihoods in the region. As these objectives are aligned with the aims of the Space for Water initiative within the Committee, we propose hosting the 7th edition of the Conference on Space Technologies for Water Resource Management in Uzbekistan in 2027 with the agenda addressing the Aral Sea crisis, its impact and innovative solutions for better management for a water-secure future.

Mr. Chair,

In conclusion, we call upon all members to expand cooperation in capacity-building activities, emphasizing the increased involvement of developing and space-faring countries. We believe that space technology offers tremendous opportunities for economic growth, social development, environmental protection and climate change mitigation. We are keen to collaborate with other countries in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and ready to share our experience on space applications that benefit humanity as a whole.

Thank you Chair.