

**STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 6: WAYS AND MEANS OF  
MAINTAINING OUTER SPACE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES AT THE  
67<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF  
OUTER SPACE VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 19 – 28 JUNE 2024**

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Chair,

1. Outer space is a global commons essential for sustainable and social development for humankind's advancement. Access to outer space and the associated benefits of space science and technology, should be equally available to both developed and developing countries. With more States utilising or tapping on the benefits of space-based technology and infrastructure, it is our collective obligation to ensure that outer space is preserved as a peaceful environment for the conduct of space activities. In this regard, as enshrined in the Outer Space Treaty, the exploration and use of outer space must be in accordance with international law, and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security.
2. Singapore supports all practical approaches towards a common framework for outer space security. This includes the development of norms of responsible behaviours in outer space, as well as the future possibility of a legally-binding instrument. We regard non-binding and legally-binding measures as complementary.
3. Singapore is particularly concerned with the issue of space debris, a major cause of which has been destructive anti-satellite activities conducted by States since the 1950s. Space debris, in particular, debris caused by destructive anti-satellite activities poses significant risk to the safe and continued operation of spacecraft, resulting in fatal or catastrophic consequences for space missions, and limits access to outer space for all countries. It is for this reason Singapore co-sponsored UN General Assembly resolution 77/41 in 2022, in support of a moratorium on destructive Direct-Ascent Anti-Satellite missile tests. On that note, Singapore supports the cessation of *all* destructive anti-satellite activities, whether direct-ascent or co-orbital.

4. Singapore also recognises the need for greater transparency and better communication with regard to space activities, such as Rendezvous and Proximity Operations (RPO). While such activities may be conducted for peaceful purposes such as space debris removal or in-orbit refuelling, there remains a risk that such operations may be misinterpreted. We therefore support the provision of advance notifications prior to such activities to the extent practicable.

Chair,

5. Discussions at COPUOS on the peaceful uses of outer space complement the substantive work on space security being undertaken in the relevant United Nations General Assembly Committees and Open-Ended Working Groups. Singapore will continue to work closely with other UN member states in all the relevant UN bodies to advance the peaceful uses of outer space.

Thank you, Chair.