

BRAZIL'S STATEMENT – MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (MCTI) UNDER
ITEM 9 OF THE AGENDA - SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT JUNE 2024

Mr. Chair, distinguished representatives, ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour for Brazil to address this committee and contribute to the discussions shaping the future of space exploration.

Recently, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) recognized that space weather has the potential to significantly impact countries' critical space and ground infrastructure. It has set forth as an international concern, in the Guidelines for the Long-Term Sustainability (LTS) of Space Activities (UN documents A/AC.105/C.1/L.366), particularly in recommendations B.6 and B.7, and the LTS 2.0 Working Group, a high-level goal for member countries. This initiative aimed to promote communication between COPUOS Member States and relevant UN bodies and international organizations that conduct space weather observations, research or operational service activities in order to improve coordination and efficiency.

The Latin American countries that are developing and providing space weather services, and that are already participants in the international organization ISES (International Space Environment Services Organization), which brings together the Regional Warning Centres, are currently Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico.

In this sense, as an initiative for Latin America, those responsible for these services including Chile being organized to be a service provider have shown interest in following the international cooperation recommendations discussed at ISES and the UNCOPUOS Group of Experts.

An MoU was signed between these four countries by the Institutions representing the Space weather services in 2021 with the intent of facilitation of communication and joint actions to avoid the replication of efforts, expand the capacity of members in space research, and standardize the provision of services for the region.

In a sequence of actions deviated from these efforts, there was an initiative by the group now with Peru as a new member State joining to create the Latin American Centre for Space Weather. This regional cooperation as a unique centre was discussed during the ALAGE meeting in 2022 in Brazil, afterwards a second meeting happened in Ushuaia, Argentina in 2023 and the third meeting in the annual meeting COLAGE 2024 in Mexico. The decision of the creation points that the EMBRACE centre in Brazil would be the operational centre, the development of the services is distributed throughout Latin America in the various country members, a scientific deliberative committee is created, for Latin America and then all the other countries that haven't joined yet is invited will have the opportunity to join.

This Protocol of Intentions reflects our dedication to strengthening international cooperation and promoting technological development in line with the principles of sustainability and space security. The involved institutions commit to join forces to foster research and cooperation in the area of space weather through the establishment of the "Latin America League for Space-Weather" (ALL4Space), aimed at improving the study and monitoring of space weather in Latin America.

Furthermore, Brazil continues its tradition in remote sensing activities for monitoring Brazilian biomes, notably with the continued operations of the Brazilian Earth Observation satellite Amazonia 1. Additionally, Brazil is actively promoting, in partnership with China, the continuation of the CBERS family of objects, with particular emphasis on the development of the CBERS 6 satellite, a remote sensing mission with Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) technology. It is also worth mentioning that currently, the Brazilian industry is developing complete space systems, with a focus on a small high-resolution Earth observation satellite and a small launch vehicle for launching nano and/or microsatellites.

Brazil recognizes that space exploration must be conducted responsibly, ensuring that all countries and peoples, as well as future generations, benefit from this final frontier. While reiterating the importance of taking into account the principle of “common, but differentiated responsibilities”, we reaffirm our willingness to collaborate closely with other Member States and international organizations to address emerging challenges to long term sustainability of outer space, such as space debris management and risk mitigation.

We also emphasize the need for inclusive space governance that involves all relevant stakeholders, from governments to the private sector and civil society. Brazil is committed to actively contributing to the discussions and initiatives within this committee, always seeking harmonized efforts for a safer and more prosperous space for all.

Thank you very much.