

Agenda item 9

Space and sustainable development:

Thank you Mr. Chair,

And thanks for the Secretariat of UNOOSA for their efforts during this session.

Mr. Chair,

Outer space is a common heritage of humankind, and a common asset that belongs to humanity as a whole. Hence, there is a need to ensure benefit sharing of space technologies and applications, particularly for the benefit of developing countries, and accordingly Egypt would like to highlight the following:

First: Egypt underscores the continued **relevance of the "Space2030" Agenda** and its Implementation Plan. It is crucial to foster international collaboration through the implementation of this agenda to allow developing countries to harness the benefits of space technology, drive socio-economic development, and improve resilience to environmental challenges.

In this regard, the sustainable use of outer space should place a special emphasis on **capacity-building activities** to bridge the huge divide between developed and developing countries in this domain and address the growing need to secure sufficient resources to this end.

Egypt, as an emerging spacefaring nation, urges the international community to take tangible steps towards making the needed technical assistance available and accessible to developing countries.

Second: Egypt emphasizes that the **main principles of relevant United Nations treaties and the peaceful uses of outer space should drive our discussions** on the “Long Term Sustainability of Outer Space” as well as the “utilization of Space Resources”.

We reiterate that universal and equitable access to outer space should be ensured for all States without discrimination. The established principle of non-appropriation of outer space must be honoured and maintained. Outer space cannot be claimed by sovereignty or by means of use and occupation.

Egypt also reiterates that any regulation of outer space should aim at improving the outer space environment for the use of all states and should not, in any way, limit the full utilization of outer space activities and applications by any other state.

There is also a **need to define and agree on possible emerging applications and efforts in utilization of space resources**, including the role of the private sector in this regard, without prejudice to the aforementioned principles, particularly for the benefit of developing spacefaring nations, particularly though safeguarding their equal rights to benefit from Space and its resources.

Third: Egypt notes the **increased role of non-governmental entities in space activities** and reiterates the relevance of **Article six of the Outer Space Treaty** in this regard, particularly the responsibility of States Parties to the Treaty for national activities in outer space, whether carried on by governmental or non-governmental entities, and that the activities of non-governmental entities in outer space shall require authorization and continuing supervision by the appropriate State Party to the Treaty, while adhering to its principles.

Thank you Mr. Chair,