

Statement by Thailand
Agenda item 9. Space and sustainable development
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Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

Space technology has been developed into a magnificent tool, propelling us towards a brighter and more sustainable future. Thailand has harnessed the space technology and information gathered from satellites to guide our development from fertile fields to clear skies.

At the ASEAN regional level, rice is a staple food and also one of our main economic crops. Yet, floods, drought and climate change threaten its bounty. Hence, ASEAN nations stand united. Through a collaborative project between Thailand's Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency or GISTDA and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, we leverage Earth observation data to improve rice paddy area statistics and damage assessment. This vital information empowers ASEAN nations to adapt agricultural practices and ensure sustainable rice production in a changing climate.

At the sub-regional level, the Lower Mekong region pulsates with agricultural potential. With China's support and UNESCAP's facilitation, Thailand spearheaded an agricultural monitoring project which empowers the government agencies in Lancang-Mekong sub-region to share data, plan strategically, and predict crop yields. Together, we are fostering security through the shared language of geospatial information.

At the national level, a digital agriculture platform using remote sensing and geo-informatics data targeted in Thailand is in operation. Policy-makers and farmers across Thailand can access crucial data on crop classification, health, and yield prediction. This empowers them to make informed decisions, optimize fertilizer use, and access markets efficiently. Moreover, Thailand's Dragonfly mobile application helps even the most remote farmers, offering information on their specific fields. We envision a future where every farmer harnesses the power of space for a more prosperous harvest.

Our planet, a tapestry woven from land, sea, and air, transcends borders. Transboundary haze, a growing concern, affects the health of millions. In this fight, Thailand joins hands with the international community. Through the Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality or ASIA-AQ mission, NASA's aircraft collected vital atmospheric data above Thailand. This data, combined with observations from Geostationary Environment Monitoring Spectrometer (GEMS) and Pandora ground instrument supported by Republic of Korea, will illuminate the path towards cleaner air. We eagerly await the results and stand ready

to collaborate further with NASA and researchers worldwide, for the well-being of our people and the health of our planet.

Thailand firmly believes that open data is the key to unlocking Sustainable Development Goals. Sphere, an open geospatial platform is a testament to this vision. Packed with data from our THEOS-1 and THEOS-2 satellites, Sphere empowers the public to access essential information and utilize built-in tools to create customized applications that allow public to leverage the data and use special tools equipped in the platform to create applications customized for their needs.

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COPUOS serves as a vital forum, reminding us that space is a tool for collective progress. Sharing experiences, data, and knowledge is the cornerstone of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. As we navigate the challenges of our world, let us stand together, not divided by borders, but united by a shared vision – a world where space technology empowers a sustainable future for all.

Thank you
