Agenda Item 10: Space and Water

Republic of Korea National Statement

Sixty-eighth Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

June 27, 2025

Thank you, Chair.

The Republic of Korea is committed to leveraging space technology to advance marine environmental protection, water resource management, and disaster response. Through close international cooperation, we are expanding the scope and impact of our contributions in these critical areas.

With respect to marine environmental change and ecosystem monitoring, the ROK utilizes multi-satellite data to precisely measure sea surface temperatures along the coastal waters of the Korean Peninsula. By identifying temperature-induced ecosystem changes, we are closely tracking medium- and long-term transformations in marine ecosystems driven by climate change.

A key milestone in these efforts is the Cheollian 2B (GK-2B), Korea's domestically produced geostationary satellite, equipped with the GOCI-II ocean monitoring instrument. GOCI-II delivers real-time ocean observations not only around the Korean Peninsula but also cover the entire

earth (Full Disk). This capability enables the generation of region-specific high-resolution satellite data such as sea surface temperature and surface ocean currents, that support domestic marine policy, as well as regional cooperation, particularly within the Asia-Pacific.

Looking ahead, beginning in 2026, the Republic of Korea plans to develop satellite-based products for large-scale ocean monitoring, enhancing the efficiency of ocean data services. These products will play a vital role in shaping marine policies and supporting disaster response.

In the field of water resources management and disaster response, the Republic of Korea is preparing to launch its next-generation medium-sized satellite (KMSAT-5) in 2027. This satellite will be equipped with a Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) technology to provide specialized data for monitoring flood, droughts, and water resources. This will significantly strengthen Korea's capacity to respond to climate-induced water shortages and extreme weather events, while also contributing meaningfully to international disaster response cooperation.

These satellite-based activities are more than technological progress: they represent Korea's ongoing commitment to achieving global goals of SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 14 (Life Below Water), through responsible and sustainable space activities.

The Republic of Korea will continue to promote the use of space technology for sustainable marine management and disaster preparedness,

and will work in close partnership with the United Nations and the international community to shape a safer and more sustainable space environment.

Thank you.