

Agenda Item 12: Use of space technology in the United Nations system

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 would like to highlight one of the key issues discussed during the 2023 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23), which addresses the potential sharing of frequency bands currently used by radar Earth observation satellites with international mobile telecommunications (IMT) systems, such as terrestrial 5G networks.

A similar issue is expected to be raised at the 2027 WRC (WRC-27), where discussions will focus on whether key frequency bands used by space systems can be shared with mobile communication systems. While the issue discussed in 2023 was primarily confined to a relatively narrow scope, mainly involving synthetic aperture radar (SAR) systems, the new agenda items for WRC-27 may have far broader implications. This is because the frequency bands under discussion are used for

primary links by almost all Earth observation satellites, as well as for transmitting weather data from meteorological satellites to users worldwide.

If terrestrial mobile communication systems were to be introduced into these frequency bands, interference could occur, which would possibly affect the operation of Earth observation satellites, and may impact our capacity to monitor and study the Earth from space. In this context, a comprehensive review and consultation on the frequency sharing would be beneficial for coordinated approaches moving forward.

The Republic of Korea, currently serving as Vice-Chair of the WRC-27 Preparatory Group, is actively engaged in the work of ITU. And we recognize the importance of analyzing the potential impacts of the WRC-27 agenda on space activities. Moreover, we believe that consultations within the UN system are necessary to ensure informed and balanced discussions at the WRC-27.

The Republic of Korea remains committed to contributing constructively to the global dialogue and to ensuring that space technology continues to serve the sustainable development of all

humankind.

Thank you.