

Agenda Item 13: Future Role and Method of Work of the Committee

Republic of Korea National Statement

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

June 27, 2025

Thank you, Chair.

Once again, the Republic of Korea wishes to express its sincere appreciation to you and Director Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini and the Secretariat of UNOOSA for your ongoing dedication to work of the Committee. We all recognize the importance of agendas addressed by this Committee and Subcommittees has never been greater. At the same time, we are also witnessing increasing challenges in the Committee's operation. In light of the shortened session period of the 68th COPUOS, it may be timely to consider ways to enhance efficiency of the Committee both in terms of its duration and agenda - while maintaining the quality of discussions. In particular, avoiding overlapping discussions across Subcommittees and improving our working method would contribute to a more effective use of time and resources.

The Republic of Korea welcomes the initiative of UNISPACE IV and would like to express its appreciation for all the efforts made to organize this timely event within existing resources. We are confident that this event

will be successful with the active engagement of all stakeholders, and look forward to continued discussions on this matter.

Chair,

The Republic of Korea, as a nation actively engaged in lunar exploration, acknowledge the importance of international cooperation to ensure safe and sustainable lunar exploration. Currently, we are operating the Korea Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter (KPLRO), and we have initiated the development of a lunar lander as part of our efforts to expand lunar exploration activities. Discussions surrounding the safety and sustainability of lunar exploration are, therefore, a matter of urgent concern for our government.

For safe and sustainable lunar exploration, it is essential that the involved parties share mission information, and we emphasize the need for the establishment of practical communication channels to facilitate this exchange. We note with appreciation that the ATLAC have agreed to focus on considering potential international consultation mechanisms with a view to facilitating the exchange of information on lunar exploration activities, and appreciate our collective efforts that have been put together during informal discussions.

We look forward to the final agreement and approval of ATLAC's workplan during this session, and we would like to express our gratitude to the Co-Chairs for leading these important discussions.

The Republic of Korea remains committed to actively participating in discussions and contributing to the collective efforts of COPUOS for the peaceful and sustainable development of space.

Thank you.