

Statement by Norway to the 68th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space under agenda item 15: “Space2030” Agenda

Chair,

This year, a midterm review of the implementation of the “Space2030” Agenda is undertaken. Norway has submitted its report on the midterm review and can announce that our activities cover all four overarching objectives, as well as seven of the SDGs.

As a coastal state with jurisdiction over large ocean areas, Norway is particularly pleased that the “Space2030” Agenda also aims to promote and strengthen the use of outer space for a sustainable ocean economy. We are constantly looking into how space-based solutions can contribute to this objective.

We are also pleased to announce that Norway signed the Declaration of Interest for a Space4Ocean Alliance at the UN Ocean Conference in Nice this month.

Countering the effects of climate change and promoting the sustainability of outer space activities are among our priorities. Satellites play a crucial role by providing data that can be used to measure the effects of climate change over time.

Norway is a participating state in Copernicus, the European Union’s earth observation programme. Copernicus is enabling us to monitor the environment and effects of climate change in remote, vast ocean areas and the Arctic. Polar regions are particularly vulnerable to climate change, and it is of global importance to document, understand and prevent negative effects in these regions.

The “Space2030” Agenda contributes to aligning space policies with the Sustainable Development Goals, and implementation of the agenda is of high priority for Norway. We will continue to consider ways of contributing to the agenda, fulfilling its objectives and report to the Committee accordingly.

Thank you Chair.