

New Zealand, 4

Check against Delivery

Thank you Chair and the Secretariat for facilitating our discussions this week. New Zealand is an active and interested participant in the work of the Committee, and I assure you of New Zealand's full support.

In 2024, New Zealand published the New Zealand Space and Advanced Aviation Strategy 2024-2030.

As part of our ongoing commitments under this strategy, New Zealand continues to apply the Guidelines for the **Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities**. We support the Working Group to progress effort towards their practical implementation.

New Zealand takes **space debris mitigation and remediation** very seriously. We are one of the first countries in the world to develop an approach to regulating active debris removal and on-orbit servicing, enabling international partners to conduct innovative and sustainable space activities from New Zealand.

New Zealand also supports the need for **space resource utilisation** and associated activities to be conducted in a safe, sustainable, responsible, and peaceful manner, consistent with international law. We see the benefits of a multistakeholder and multilateral approach and note that non-binding instruments and fora can also be useful in guiding the behaviour of States and in supporting the development of rules and norms.

Chair,

While progress is being made, space has also become congested and contested. We share concerns [expressed by several delegations] regarding potential activities that may risk the free and open use of space for all. We acknowledge the work under way by our colleagues in Geneva and look forward to a constructive outcome from the open-ended working group on Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space.

Thank you Chair, we look forward to a productive session.