

UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Sixty-eight session

Vienna, 25 June - 2 July 2025

Statement of the Delegation of Romania

Agenda item 4: General exchange of views

Mr. Chairman Rafiq Akram of Morocco, on behalf of Romania, I warmly congratulate you on assuming the Chairship of the Committee and assure you of our full support for a successful tenure. We also extend congratulations to First Vice-Chair Ambassador Juan Francisco Facetti of Paraguay and Second Vice-Chair Ms. Hesa Al-Khalifa of Bahrain for their commitment and leadership.

Romania expresses deep appreciation to Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, Director of UNOOSA, for their leadership and support in navigating the opportunities and challenges of outer space. We are particularly grateful to the Secretariat team for their invaluable assistance to our delegation, including in the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the organization of ATLAC meetings.

As an active member of the European Union and the European Space Agency, Romania participates in all major space programs and fully aligns with the EU statement at this session. We also take pride in our continued adherence to the Artemis Accords, reaffirming our dedication to transparent and sustainable space exploration. We also proudly joined ESA's Zero Debris Charter, underscoring our commitment to preventing new space debris and ensuring the sustainability of space activities.

Romania echoes the concerns of others about the growing congestion of Earth orbit and the risks posed by space debris. In this context, Romania supports Germany's invitation to the Committee to decide on the establishment of the Study Group in the LSC and the UAE proposal to establish an Expert Group on Space Situational Awareness with an independent structure within the remit of the LTS Working Group under the STSC.

We are pleased that the Committee established the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation last year. As Co-Chair, together with our distinguished colleague from Pakistan, Mr. Hasan Abbas, Romania convened four informal consultations during this session. Following these consultations, we have reached informal consensus on both the workplan and the list of priority topics. We thank all delegations for their constructive engagement and written contributions, and we encourage continued active participation as we move toward a final decision.

Romania is proud that, in December 2024, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 2029 as the International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence, aligned with the close approach of asteroid Apophis. We deeply appreciate the broad support from Member States

and the diligent work of many delegations that led to the adoption of this resolution.

Romania remains committed in promoting outer space as a domain for peaceful, multilateral cooperation for the benefit of all humankind and looks forward to contributing actively to this session of the Committee.

Thank you.