Sweden

General Statement, Agenda Item 4 68th session of Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space 25 June- 2 July 2025

[Check against delivery]

Thank you Chair,

Please allow me to express Sweden's full support and appreciation to you and to UNOOSA.

Sweden aligns itself with the statement by the European Union, including our condemnation of the Russian Federation's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine.

We would like to add the following in our national capacity.

Chair,

Sweden places great importance on our work here at COPUOS and its subcommittees. This is because we are firmly committed to multilateralism, to the sustainable development goals and to the United Nations multilateral agreements; to maintaining the respect for international law and a rules-based international order. Our joint achievements here are essential for the sustainable, safe, secure and responsible use of outer space.

Chair,

The Outer Space Treaty from 1967 remains the cornerstone of Space Law. We encourage more States to accede to the Treaty, and to fully implement it.

Sweden underlines the need to foster increased international cooperation, sustainability of space activities and to preserve access to outer space.

We do not share the views expressed in conference room paper 21 presented by Norway to the Legal Subcommittee this year, in regard to the effects those views have on the access to outer space.

Furthermore, Sweden supports the continued work of the Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space. We underscore the importance of States continuing to implement the adopted guidelines.

We highly value UNOOSA and COPOUS members' work in furthering the Space4Women initiative. These are important contributions to achieving gender equality in the space sector.

We appreciate our continued dialogue on a UNISPACE IV-conference in 2027, a summit which has the potential to truly accelerate our

multilateral efforts in advancing the safe and sustainable exploration of outer space.

We also look forward to our deliberations on the Space 2030-Agenda and its implementation.

Chair,

The Swedish space industry continues to deliver great achievements. The Esrange Space Centre has had more than 600 successful launches of sounding rockets. The center also accommodates one of the world's largest civilian satellite ground stations, as well as European launch capability for small satellites.

The Swedish government continues to invest in the space sector. Since 2020, the Esrange Space Centre has also developed and tested rocket engines and reusable space technology. Sweden also contributes to the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking capabilities.

Distinguished Chair,

To conclude: as firm believers of multilateralism, we look forward to working together to ensure a productive session.

I thank you.