



**Statement of the G-77 and China
during the sixty-eighth session of the United Nations
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,
25 June - 2 July 2025
delivered by H.E. Maurice Makoloo,
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Kenya**

**AGENDA ITEM 5: WAYS AND MEANS OF MAINTAINING OUTER SPACE FOR
PEACEFUL PURPOSES.**

1. The Group wants to underscore its firm conviction that the use and exploration of outer space shall be carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes, for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and in conformity with applicable international law.

2. The Group reiterates that COPUOS, with its two Subcommittees, is the only UN forum to discuss comprehensively all matters related to the peaceful uses of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies. Accordingly, the Group believes that the international legal framework should be developed in a manner that addresses the concerns of all States and that ensures the space development and activities of developing countries.

Mr. Chair,

3. The Group welcomes the new applications to join the membership of the Committee. The steady growth of COPUOS in recent years is a clear sign of the international recognition of the unique role of COPUOS as the UN forum dedicated to discussing and promoting the peaceful uses of outer space. It is important that more Member States of the United Nations be welcomed as this contributes to the promotion of the peaceful uses of outer space.

4. In this regard, the Group both welcomes and encourages the participation of observers in the Committee and its Subcommittees as this contributes to greater engagement with the activities of COPUOS.

5. The Group reaffirms the importance of preventing an arms race in outer space and placement of weapons of any kind in outer space and calls upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the peaceful use of outer space to prevent an arms race there and to refrain from placement of weapons of any kind in outer space and any other actions contrary to that objective.

6. In this regard, the Group notes that transparency and confidence building measures could play a useful role. The Group believes that the long-term sustainability of outer space activities requires the commitment of all Member States to use outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes.