

## STATEMENT BY DIRECTOR GENERAL MALAYSIAN SPACE AGENCY (MYSA) TO THE

## 61st SESSION OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (LSC COPUOS), VIENNA 28 MAC - 8 APRIL 2022

## AGENDA ITEM 13: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF SPACE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Madam Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

Malaysia notes that the outer space environment is becoming increasingly complex and congested, owing to the growing number of objects in outer space, the diversification of actors in outer space and the increase in space activities, and that space traffic management ("STM") could be considered in that context. Malaysia emphasizes the importance of STM to the safety of space operations benefiting all users of outer space.

On this note, Malaysia wishes to highlight the existence of voluntary "Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" and "Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities" adopted by the General Assembly which serves as a tool for the safety of space operations.

At the national level, Malaysia had just recently gazetted the Malaysian Space Board Act 2022 [Act 834] on 25 January 2022, which aims to regulate space activities in Malaysia. This Act captures principles, rules, and concepts as provided in the UN Treaties on outer space and also provides for the establishment of the Malaysian Space Board to regulate space-related activities for security purposes.

Given the fact that the STM involves complex technical aspects, Malaysia is of the view that it is best to engage and refer to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee being the primary forum on the technical aspect of space activities, in order to identify whether both guidelines are sufficient to address the STM which could facilitate the discussion under this Agenda item.

On another note, Malaysia wishes to highlight the need to strengthen international cooperation pertaining to sharing of information on space situational awareness as among the tool in preserving the safety of space operations for purposes of the STM.

As a conclusion, Malaysia continues to recognize the significance of STM in the field of space operation. We look forward to hearing other delegations' views under this Agenda item.

Thank you.