

## STATEMENT BY DIRECTOR GENERAL MALAYSIAN SPACE AGENCY (MYSA) TO THE 61<sup>st</sup> 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 14: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW TO SMALL-SATELLITE ACTIVITIES

Madam Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, Malaysia aligns itself with the statement made by Morocco on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and would like to make the following remarks in its our national capacity.

Madam Chair,

Malaysia notes with concerns about the growing number of small satellites with the view to ensure safety in the space environment. On this note, Malaysia wishes to emphasize that all international rights and obligations of States with respect to large satellites under the United Nations Treaties on outer space together with the non-binding instruments such as the

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Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines are equally applicable for the conduct of space activities with the use of small satellites.

Malaysia wishes to underscore that, given the importance of utilization of small satellites in the socio-economic development of a State, particularly developing countries and emerging space-faring countries, Malaysia is concerned that any ad-hoc legal regime or any other mechanisms, if it is not carefully considered, may impose limitations on designing, building, launching and use of small satellites by developing countries.

Malaysia commends the Secretariat for producing a background paper entitled "Registration of large constellations and megaconstellations". Malaysia wishes to highlight that in compliance with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space, Malaysia has duly registered all space objects. To be in line with the Convention, Malaysia requires for the registration of space object under the Malaysian Space Board Act 2022 [Act 834]. Thus far, Malaysia does not foresee any issue on the registration of large constellations and megaconstellations due to the limited number of satellites from Malaysia.

In conclusion, with the rapid technological change and growing commercialization of space activities involving small satellites, Malaysia recognizes the importance of maintaining this Agenda item. Malaysia also remains committed to participating in the discussion and supports a consultative process involving all Member States.

Thank you.