

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

62nd SESSION OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (LSC COPUOS), VIENNA 20 - 31 MAC 2023

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

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

- 1. Malaysia underscores the importance of Space Traffic Management ("STM") to the safety of space operations benefiting all users of outer space, specifically the outer space environment was becoming increasingly complex and congested.
- 2. Malaysia observes the view that was expressed by a member state on the need to develop rules, regulations, practices, guidelines and standards on STM to ensure the safety of space operations. 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 serve as important tools for the safety of space operations.

3. Malaysia observes that this Agenda item had come before the Legal Subcommittee prior to any discussion having been held in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee ("STSC"). Accordingly, it is Malaysia's view that it is best to engage and refer to the STSC 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.

4. On another note, Malaysia wishes to reiterate 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.

Madam Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

5. As a conclusion, Malaysia wishes to highlight that this topic requires much detailed analysis, in particular on technical aspects in arriving at a consensus position acceptable at the international level. We look forward to hearing other delegations' views under this Agenda item.

Thank you, Madam Chair.