

Japan Item 12– “General Exchange of information on Non-legally binding UN Instruments on Outer Space”

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Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

A number of principles, declarations and guidelines for the peaceful uses of outer space in the form of UN General Assembly resolutions have been developed in the Committee since the early 1980s. For Japan, these resolutions have been playing an important role in complementing the existing treaties for the peaceful uses of outer space.

To address contemporary challenges in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, it is necessary to gain a better understanding of non-legally binding instruments and related practices.

Madam Chair,

The compendium of responses to the questionnaire, which Japan distributed at the 55th Session, has invigorated discussions on this agenda item and can serve as a useful reference to all states endeavoring to implement non-legally binding United Nations instruments. We hope that more states and international intergovernmental organizations will provide information on their implementation measures.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Secretariat for distributing the compendium and for maintaining it on a dedicated page of the UNOOSA website, making it accessible to all relevant actors.

Madam Chair,

The Guidelines on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (LTS Guidelines), is another recent and important non-legally binding instrument adopted at COPUOS. Japan encourages all States to properly implement the LTS Guidelines.

Japan is looking forward to contributing substantially in our discussion on this agenda item with a view to achieving a meaningful outcome.

Thank you for your kind attention.