

Indonesia

Agenda Item 10: General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

By: Ms. Runggu Prilia Ardes

Mr. Chair,

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Laura Gil, Ambassador Permanent Representative of Colombia on behalf of Group of 77 and China. We would further like to add the following remarks in our national capacity.

Indonesia supports the discussion of this agenda for the purposes of safety and sustainability of the space and Earth environment.

My delegation take note and appreciate the secretariat for updating the Compendium of space debris mitigation standards adopted by States and international organizations in 15 May 2023. This compendium provides a valuable information and will assist member countries that are still in the process of initiating national measures related to Space Debris Mitigation.

Indonesia is committed to implement the Law Number 21 of 2013 on Space Activities which is in line with the space debris mitigation guidelines and the LTS Guidelines. Let me also inform you that based on the Law, Indonesia is continuing to develop a falling object monitoring application in space by studying new populations and prediction modeling of space debris.

Mr. Chair,

As a member State of the COPUOS, Indonesia supports the initiatives aimed at mitigating the impact of space debris, and in accordance with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee. In this regard, Indonesia would like to reiterate its position regarding development of small satellites which comply with the ISO certification as stated in our statement last year.

Indonesia has the potential risk for space debris falling, considering that all space debris passes through the Equator. Some space debris that has fallen in Indonesian territory includes in 1981 in Gorontalo, in 1988 in Lampung, in 2004 in Bengkulu, in 2016 in Sumenep Madura, in 2017 in West Sumatra, and in 2022 in West Kalimantan. Moreover, there have been numerous cases of space debris falling into the surrounding areas of Indonesia, where the economic activities of citizens also take place.

In this regard, Indonesia has carried out activities to mitigate the impact of space debris which is expected to fall surrounding its territory. This includes conducting virtual monitoring of anticipated debris trajectories using publicly available orbital data and a self-developed computer program. Indonesia has also carried out direct observations of space debris, especially in high orbits (like MEO and GEO) using several optical telescopes and characterize its behavior.

Indonesia believes that the increase and proliferation of space debris will pose a serious threat not only to the safety, security, and sustainability of space activities in outer space but also on Earth. Thus, Indonesia attaches the importance of every member State to work on information sharing and coordination under the guidance of UNOOSA.

Indonesia also welcomes other nations interested in developing space infrastructure within Indonesia territorial and jurisdiction through close cooperation.

Thank You.