

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA

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THE 63rd SESSION OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE
(LSC-COPUOS), VIENNA
15 – 26 APRIL 2024

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

Malaysia aligns itself with the statement made by the Group of 77 and China and would like to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

Malaysia upholds the belief that comprehensive registration of space objects is crucial, enabling launching States to monitor their launched space objects effectively. We advocate for transparency among Member States, encouraging the sharing of information pertaining to space activities that could potentially compromise the security and safety of other States.

Mutual cooperation in sharing accurate data, knowledge, experiences, and enhancing capabilities, including the development of technical resources, modified prediction models, and advanced facilities, is essential. We hope such collaborative efforts can be facilitated under the auspices of COPUOS.

Furthermore, Malaysia emphasises the imperative for launching States to take proactive measures to prevent accidents and incidents resulting from uncontrolled reentry of space debris. Additionally, concerted efforts are needed to mitigate pollution in Earth's orbit and avert accidental collisions between debris and other space objects.

Regarding the decongestion of outer space through remediation, Malaysia advocates for a common but differentiated responsibilities approach. Actors primarily responsible for space debris creation should take the lead in debris removal activities and provide their scientific and legal expertise to developing countries.

Taking into account of the importance of matters discussed under this agenda Item, Malaysia wishes to highlight that Malaysia had put in place the Malaysian Space Board Act 2022 [Act 834], which governs all space-related activities, ensuring safety, proper registration of space objects, delineating space-related offenses, and addressing all pertinent matters.

Further to this, Malaysia wishes to stress on the importance of the ongoing discussions on legal mechanisms related to space debris mitigation and remediation during LSC sessions. We acknowledge the significance of non-legally binding and voluntary measures such as the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. Additionally, Malaysia underscores the importance of enhancing the capacity of developing countries to voluntarily implement these measures.

In conclusion, Malaysia recognises the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space as the appropriate forum to address space debris mitigation and remediation measures. We advocate for a consultative process involving all Member States of the Committee.

Thank you.