

Permanent Mission of the Federative Republic of Brazil

Item 4: General exchange of views

[Check against delivery]

Mr. Chairperson,

Felicitaciones por su elección como Presidente de este Subcomité. Puede tener la seguridad de contar con el pleno apoyo de Brasil al largo de esta reunión.

Brazil takes this opportunity to reaffirm its commitment with the principles and rules governing the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space. Particularly, I would like to highlight, as outlined in General Assembly resolutions 1884 (XVIII) and 1962 (XVIII), the following:

(a) universal and equal access to outer space for all countries without discrimination, regardless of their level of scientific, technical and economic development, as well as the equitable and rational use of outer space for the benefit and in the interests of all humankind;

(b) non-appropriation of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, which cannot be appropriated by any State, by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation or by any other means;

(c) the non-militarization of outer space, which, as the province of humankind, should never to be used for the placement and deployment of weapons of any kind;

and (d) international cooperation in the development of space activities, in particular those referred to in the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries.

In order to realize these provisions, it is necessary to implement national laws, applicable to both governmental and non-governmental actors. This serves the interest of both the space actors themselves and that of the general population given the importance of space activities for everyday life; the complex nature of space activities and the high risks involved. Brazil calls upon all States operating in outer space and States with operators conducting activities in outer space to develop and implement, to the extent that they have not already done so, internal rules to govern those activities and operations, in line with their international obligations.

Brazil is also pleased to announce that, last March, the Commission of Constitution and Justice of the House of Representatives approved a Bill of law with the final version of the General Law on Space Activities, which is one step further to its approval. Once in force, this piece of legislation will provide further solidity to the legal framework on space activities, adding to more than a dozen of existing internal instruments.

I would also like to highlight that, under Brazil's G20 Presidency, the Brazilian Space Agency will organize the 5th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting (SELM) in the city of Foz do Iguaçu, from 11 to 13 September 2024. The event continues the initiative first carried out by Saudi Arabia in 2020, and replicated by Italy in 2021, Indonesia in 2022 and India in 2023. It will be an occasion to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the space economy, mindful of the role of space-based technologies and space-derived information in mitigating climate change.

In November 2023, the Brazilian Space Agency (AEB) participated in the International Workshop on Space Resources Perspectives of Emerging Space Programs, co-hosted by different Korean research institutes in Daejeon, Republic of Korea. During this event, AEB presented ongoing work related to space resources, including a partnership with the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa) for space farming initiatives. Building upon the valuable information shared during the workshop, AEB is pleased to announce that Brazil will host the next workshop in this series in November 2024. This event will be coorganized with the Secure World Foundation. We invite experts and interested agencies from both the Latin American region and the rest of the COPOUS membership to participate in this event.

I would like to finish by thanking Member States and organizations for the heartfelt condolences on the passing of Mr. José Monserrat Filho. Mr. Monserrat was a dedicated contributor to the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, in particular to the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space of the Legal Subcommittee, which he presided over.

Thank you.