

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA

DELIVERED BY MR. JAMES FRANCIS FERNANDIS FEDERAL COUNSEL ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBER MALAYSIA

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 13: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW TO SMALL-SATELLITE ACTIVITIES

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 emphasises the need for small satellite activities, regardless of their scale, to strictly adhere to established international frameworks, encompassing all relevant United Nations treaties and principles concerning outer space, along with specific international instruments such as the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines set forth by the Committee.

Recognising the proliferation of small satellites in orbital operations, Malaysia urges member states to exercise utmost caution and comply with existing international frameworks and voluntary agreements to safeguard against adverse impacts on the space environment and activities conducted by other member states.

Malaysia reaffirms the principle of equitable access to the benefits and opportunities of small satellite endeavours, particularly prioritising access for developing states, governmental and non-governmental entities, including universities, research institutes, and resource-limited private industries engaged in small satellite initiatives.

However, these activities must remain within the bounds of established international frameworks, including United Nations treaties and principles on outer space, the ITU Constitution and Convention, the ITU Radio Regulations, and non-binding instruments like the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Affairs outlined by the Committee.

My delegation wishes to highlight that on space exploration, Malaysia had successfully launched and registered two satellites in 2023, namely A-SEANSAT-PG1 (PG1) and SpaceANT-D.

Thank you.