

Statement of APSCO Delegation

at the 64th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of

the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna, 5-16 May 2025

Agenda Item 3. General Exchange of Views

Honorable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

It is my privilege to make this statement on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), under Agenda Item 3.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation has full trust and confidence in your leadership to steer this committee, and we extend our full support to you and to the work of LSC. We also extend our appreciation to, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, the Director of UNOOSA, and her team, for very efficient planning, and successfully organizing this session.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO is an inter-governmental international organization devoted on tapping regional resources, promoting multilateral cooperation in space science, technology and applications and capacity building in space related fields. It provides a cooperative mechanism for countries to work together for the development of collaborative space programs & space capabilities.

APSCO currently has fourteen Member States. That include 8 full Member (Bangladesh, China, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand, and Türkiye) one Signatory Member: Indonesia (ratification in process), and four Observers: Mexico, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Sciences (AUASS) and ISNET (Inter-Islamic network on Space Science and Technology). China is the host country for APSCO and the Headquarters of APCSO is located in Beijing, China. APSCO also has cooperative partnerships with Argentina and Russia on satellite data sharing and capacity building in space related fields.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Space law and policy is one of the core areas of APSCO's Development Plan and is an essential element for APSCO's role to contribute in the inclusive development of Member States in the field of space. APSCO promotes International Cooperation in Space Law and Policy and has been actively cooperating with international space community for various activities.

In the past few years, APSCO has taken groundbreaking initiatives that have substantively contributed to the Member States in understanding crucial aspects of space governance. These include, development of APSCO Strategy for Space Law and Policy of APSCO (2021-2030) which was approved by the APSCO Council in 2020, providing technical advisory services for development of National Space Legislation in APSCO Member States through UNOOSA in 2023, establishment of APSCO Space Law Alliance (ASLA) in 2024, a network of 27 space organizations, institutions, and universities from Member States of APSCO, aiming to promote the joint activities, joint research and collaboration on matters related to space law and policy.

This year particularly, we just finished the 2nd Board Meeting of ASLA, in which implementation plans for 6 activities, led by various members form China, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand were undertaken.

Also, APSCO is going to hold an international conference on Space Law and Policy which will be organized in Zhuhai, China in November, with collaboration of partners from Peru, Pakistan and China.

Furthermore, APSCO Leadership Development Forum is planned to be organized from 1-2 December 2025, in Bangkok Thailand with the support of the National Board of Digital Economy and Society Office (BDE), Ministry of Digital Economy and Society of Thailand.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Besides, APSCO considers capacity building as the most crucial pillar for developing responsible behavior and promotion of international space law. APSCO has been making efforts to help its Member States and region by providing them opportunities related to capacity building in space law, that varies from degree education to training and consultation. In future, APSCO focuses on initiating:

- Organizing Executive Courses for Leaders
- Conducting Research on Contemporary Issues in Space Law and Policy
- Supporting Joint Publications
- Creating Pool of Space Law and Policy Experts

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO and its Members are strongly committed and strongly support international space cooperation especially through UNOOSA mechanism. APSCO is open to all countries and the space community to cooperate for peaceful uses of outer space.

I thank you all for your attention.

Aisha Jagirani (Ms.)

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