Statement by Slovenia,

64th Session of the Legal Sub-Committee of the United Nations Committee of the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Agenda Item 11: General exchange of views on the legal aspects of Space Traffic Management (Vienna, May 2025)

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

Mr. Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to contribute to this important dialogue on behalf of the Republic of Slovenia and share a few important points. Slovenia has long recognized Space Traffic Management (STM) as one of the most urgent and pivotal challenges facing the international space community. Since our Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2021, we have consistently emphasized that ensuring the safety, sustainability, and security of space activities must remain a shared global priority.

We firmly believe that outer space must be accessible to all States, on the basis of equality and without discrimination, in accordance with international law. The development of a comprehensive, transparent, and inclusive framework for STM is therefore a vital step toward safeguarding this principle.

In this regard, Slovenia welcomed and continues to support the proposal put forward by the United Arab Emirates for the establishment of a dedicated working group on Space Situational Awareness (SSA) within the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. While Slovenia does not currently possess its own national SSA capabilities, this makes us even more aware of the value of shared knowledge about the space environment. We recognize that effective monitoring of space activities is only possible through advanced technical capabilities, and

we are deeply appreciative of efforts that promote broader access to such knowledge.

We also commend the proposal currently under consideration to establish a dedicated working group on the legal aspects of Space Traffic Management. Slovenia strongly supports this initiative. It is time to move beyond general discussions and towards the development of concrete, actionable outcomes that address the legal dimensions of STM in a focused and sustained manner.

We extend our sincere thanks to the delegation of Germany for its leadership in bringing this important proposal forward, and for encouraging us all to take this crucial next step. While we fully support the formation of a legal working group, Slovenia is of the view that the establishment of an action team may offer a more effective and flexible approach—particularly as we look ahead to UNISPACE+50 in 2027. Past experience has shown that such action teams can deliver meaningful progress and foster the consensus needed to advance shared goals.

It is important to underscore that we are not starting from zero. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee has already developed and adopted the 21 Guidelines for the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, and Slovenia is proud to have implemented these guidelines into our national space legislation. We encourage all Member States to follow suit and implement these important standards at the national level.

In conclusion, Slovenia reaffirms its belief that any future regulatory framework for Space Traffic Management must be developed through inclusive international cooperation, under the auspices of this Committee and in close collaboration with UNOOSA, which should play a proactive role.

Slovenia remains fully committed to contributing—within the scope of our capabilities—to all ongoing and future initiatives related to STM.

Gracias, Señor Presidente, and distinguished delegates, for your kind attention.