

**Statement by Thailand on Agenda item 12. General Exchange of Views on the Application  
of International Law to Small-Satellite Activities**  
**64<sup>th</sup> Session of Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS, 5-16 May 2025**

Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for allowing Thai delegation to share our perspective on the application of international law to small-satellite activities. As small satellites revolutionize global space operations, we must ensure their integration into the international legal framework, balancing innovation with responsibility.

Mr. Chair,

Regarding the application of international law to small-satellite activities, Thailand recognizes the importance of a comprehensive and cooperative approach to ensure the sustainable and responsible use of outer space. Small satellites play a crucial role in advancing space science, telecommunications, and Earth observation. However, their rapid proliferation presents challenges such as orbital congestion, frequency coordination issues, and potential collision risks. Addressing these concerns requires enhanced international collaboration to develop clear and effective legal frameworks that promote safety, transparency, and equitable access to space.

Thailand firmly supports multilateral engagement in space traffic management, frequency coordination, and debris mitigation, which could be an effective mechanism to tackle the challenges arisen from the rapid growth of the quantity of small satellites. We emphasize the importance of transparent data sharing, increased coordination among nations, and adherence to international treaties to mitigate risks associated with small-satellite activities. Furthermore, we believe that capacity-building initiatives, particularly for emerging space nations, are essential to fostering an inclusive and sustainable space governance framework.

At the national level, Thailand is advancing its space policy through the Draft Space Activity Act, which is currently under review. This legislation establishes a clear regulatory framework for

small satellites, ensuring compliance with our international obligations under the Outer Space Treaty, the Liability Convention, and the Registration Convention. Currently, the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) oversees satellite frequency allocations, ensuring that Thailand's satellite operations adhere to international frequency coordination requirements. However, with the introduction of the Space Activity Act, Thailand aims to consolidate and enhance space governance under a unified agency.

Key provisions of the Draft Space Activity Act include the following points,

- 1<sup>st</sup> : Mandatory Registration & Licensing: All Thai small satellites must be recorded in the National Space Object Registry to ensure transparency and accountability,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> : Liability & Insurance Compliance: Operators must secure insurance coverage to address potential damages, aligning with international best practices,

Looking ahead, once the Space Activity Act is enacted, Thailand plans to establish a dedicated Thailand Space Agency that will oversee all space-related activities, including regulation, research, and development of the national space ecosystem. This agency will play a central role in coordinating national space policies, fostering innovation, and ensuring that Thailand remains actively engaged in international space governance.

Thailand reaffirms its commitment to responsible small-satellite governance and urges continued international cooperation to harmonize regulations, ensure equitable access, and enhance the sustainability of space activities. We look forward to engaging in constructive discussions to shape a resilient and future-proof legal framework for small satellites that balances technological advancement with long-term sustainability

Thank you, Mr. Chair.