

GHANA

Agenda Item 3: General Exchange of Views

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honour for Ghana to address this esteemed Subcommittee. Ghana expresses its appreciation to the Chair of the Legal Subcommittee for the able guidance of this session and to the Director of UNOOSA and her team for their continued dedication and support to Member States. Ghana aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Africa Group and the Group of 77 and China. We wish to underscore our commitment to the peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space, undertaken in a manner that is inclusive, equitable and in harmony with international law.

2. National Space Activities

- Ghana's efforts in space science and technology are spearheaded by the Ghana Space Science and Technology Institute (GSSTI). Over the past year, the GSSTI has expanded its research and training programs, focusing on Earth observation, satellite communications and space weather to support national development needs.
- Building on the successful deployment of our first satellite, GhanaSat-1, we are now exploring the feasibility of additional small-satellite missions aimed at enhancing agricultural monitoring, disaster preparedness and environmental surveillance.
- Ghana is also advancing its national space policy framework, with the goal of crafting legislation that guarantees responsible, transparent and efficient space activities. We anticipate closer collaboration with partners, including UNOOSA and the African Space Agency, to refine this framework and strengthen our capacities for satellite registration, data sharing and regulatory oversight.

3. Legal and Regulatory Developments

- As we pursue enhanced space capabilities, Ghana underscores the importance of international cooperation in addressing challenges such as space debris, orbital congestion and spectrum allocation. We advocate for dialogue that fosters new norms or guidelines while safeguarding the ability of developing nations to establish and expand their space programs.
- Ghana supports the ongoing discussions around space resources and commercial activities in outer space, emphasizing that any future regulatory framework must reflect the interests and priorities of developing countries, ensuring that all States derive benefits equitably.

4. Capacity-Building and Outreach

- To sustain our national programs, Ghana places education and public outreach at the forefront, partnering with universities and research institutions to train the next generation of scientists, engineers and legal experts in the space domain.

- We acknowledge the valuable role played by UNOOSA's capacity-building initiatives and encourage further support from advanced spacefaring nations so that all Member States can fully participate in the global space economy and contribute to cutting-edge innovation. Ghana remains committed to inclusive capacity-building, particularly in youth education and awareness.
- As part of Ghana's ongoing efforts to leverage space science for sustainable development, we are pleased to highlight our participation in the CommonSpace Initiative, jointly led by the UNOOSA and the Commonwealth Secretariat. This initiative recognizes Ghana as the first demonstration country for the application of space-based technologies in climate resilience.

5. Regional and International Cooperation

- Ghana continues to work closely with fellow African nations in developing a coherent approach to space governance, technology sharing and the development of regional assets, such as the African Space Agency. We believe a united African perspective fully aligned with international legal norms will strengthen the continent's position in global space discussions.
- In line with the Africa Group's position and the G77 and China statement, Ghana underscores the need to ensure that international cooperation in outer space governance actively supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to climate action, education and infrastructure.
- At the international level, Ghana reaffirms the principle that outer space is the province of all humankind. We welcome continued dialogue at COPUOS to address emerging issues, including on-orbit servicing, satellite mega-constellations and space traffic coordination, in a manner that respects the sovereign interests of all nations.

6. In closing, Ghana reiterates its commitment to upholding the peaceful, inclusive and development-oriented vision for outer space. We extend our appreciation to the Bureau, the Secretariat and all delegations for their cooperation and look forward to forging deeper partnerships that will help all countries, particularly those in the developing world, reap the benefits of space exploration and utilization.

I thank you for your kind attention, Mr. Chair.