

## Kingdom of the Netherlands – Check against delivery

### **Statement Kingdom of the Netherlands Item 5 – Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space**

Mr Chair, distinguished delegates, I thank you for giving me the floor.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands is a party to all five UN Space Treaties, and would, as always, invite all States to also ratify all five, including the Moon Agreement. The ratification, implementation and application of these treaties, including through non legally binding instruments, will promote responsible behaviour in outer space, which is so dearly needed today.

Mr Chair, let me start by thanking the Secretariat for the background paper on the implementation of Articles XI of the OST and Article VI of the Registration Convention, with number A/AC.105/C.2/L.338. It correctly represents the practice of my country, which does not consider itself to be a liable as a launching State if the launch of an object owned and operated by an enterprise is procured by that enterprise, and launched from the territory of another State. Implementing our obligations under Article XI, we duly notify such activities, and only register them in our supplementary registry. The activities registered under Article IV only concerned those for which we also are the launching State.

The Netherlands would welcome the Secretariat's suggestion to establish a synthesis of the information provided under Article XI and Article VI, provided that the legal differences are clear to anyone accessing the database. The Kingdom of the Netherlands would also support the development of a standardized submission template for Article XI information sharing. We welcome the continuation of this discussion, which should be informed by the guiding principle of cooperation and mutual assistance, the obligation to conduct activities with due regard, and of the obligation to provide the Secretary-General of the UN, the public and the international scientific community of information to the greatest extent feasible and practicable of the nature, conduct, locations and results of outer space activities.

The next step will be to ensure the registration and monitoring of all outer space activities in all its aspects, including post launch activities, including for instance in-orbit servicing. The Kingdom of the Netherlands would therefore welcome the Enhanced Space Object Registration Portal proposed in the Annex by the Secretariat, but would propose that the notification of activities other than launches should be made possible too.

I thank you for your attention