

**Statement by Norway to the 64th session of the Legal Subcommittee – agenda item 3,
General exchange of views**

Chair,

Norway wishes to thank you for chairing this 64th session of the Legal Subcommittee. Please rest assured of Norway's support.

We also thank the Office for Outer Space Affairs for their excellent work in preparing this session.

We are pleased to see that the membership to UNCOPUOS is steadily increasing. In that respect, my delegation welcomes the new members to the Committee: Djibouti and Latvia.

Norway continues to condemn Russia's illegal full-scale war against Ukraine. Norway calls for Russia to cease hostilities and unconditionally withdraw all forces and military equipment from within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders.

Chair,

There is a vast and evolving potential for activities in outer space. The pace of progress reminds us of the importance of the multilateral efforts of COPUOS to develop norms and guidelines for the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space. Norway remains committed to the work of COPUOS and its Subcommittees.

Our priorities in COPUOS have not changed. The working group on legal aspects of space resource activities, the working group on long-term sustainability, space as an asset to combat climate change, the Space 2030 Agenda, and space traffic management are still among our priorities.

Regarding space resources, Norway congratulates the Vice-Chair, Professor Steven Freeland, on delivering an initial set of draft recommended principles on space resources. We will deliver a separate statement regarding space resources under agenda item 8. My delegation also wishes to express our condolences to the Polish delegation on the passing away of Ambassador Misztal.

Norway is also pleased with the progress made on the draft final report and annex to the final report made during the informal meetings of the working group on long-term sustainability in April. Norway welcomes further discussions in the working group during the meeting of the main committee in June.

As for the Space2030 Agenda, Norway has submitted its report for the midterm review of the Space2030 Agenda.

Norway also supports the holding of a UNISPACE IV conference in 2027.

When it comes to space traffic management, this topic is gaining increased importance as the number of objects and activities in space continue to grow. We believe the suggestion made by Germany during last year's session of the Legal Subcommittee, to give a mandate to a study group of experts to come up with a proposal on how to move forward on space traffic management is very positive, and Norway co-sponsor the paper by Germany on a "Proposal for a Study Group on Legal and Policy Aspects of Space Traffic".

Regarding the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC), Norway has appointed representatives to participate in the work of ATLAC, and we will follow the work of the action team.

Chair,

In conclusion, Norway is proud to report that on 30 March this year the German company Isar Aerospace launched its rocket Spectrum from Andøya Spaceport in Northern Norway. This is the first orbital rocket launched from Continental Europe. Despite the short journey of the Spectrum rocket, this marks the beginning of a new era in Norwegian and European spaceflight.

Furthermore, last month we also had the first person in space wearing a Norwegian flag on her arm. Jannicke Mikkelsen flew on the mission Fram2 on a Dragon spacecraft from SpaceX. This is the first human spaceflight mission to explore the Earth in a polar orbit.

Thank you Chair