

STATEMENT OF PAKISTAN DELEGATION
59TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (STSC) OF
THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE
(UNCOPUOS); 7-18 FEB 2022 – VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Agenda Item No. 12: Near-Earth Objects

Mr. Chairman

In order to maintain Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, observations, monitoring and cataloging of Near Earth Objects (NEOs) is crucial for safety and security of space assets, space missions, space exploration and astronomical research. The larger sized NEOs can pose serious threat to the life on Earth.

SUPARCO, being a member of Space Mission Planning Advisory Group, supports the 1st SMPAG hypothetical impact threat exercise which was conducted in December 2021, virtually. It is expected that the activity initiated, as follow up to the 17th SMPAG meeting held in October 2021, would be helpful in preparing timeline and action plan of UN-designated international year of planetary defense/asteroid awareness for 2029. It is highlighted that impact of NEOs may be different on Earth depending upon the size of objects.

At regional level, SUPARCO is participating in the project, 'Asia-Pacific Space Science Observatories' under the framework of APSCO. A network of astronomical observatories will be established in the Member States including Pakistan. The facility would also be used for monitoring, tracking and cataloging of NEOs for developing database.

Thank You Mr. Chairman

----- End of Statement -----