

Thailand's statement
On Agenda Item 13. Long-term Sustainability of outer space activities
by Mr. Peerapat Akarakupt, International Relations Officer,
Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency
at the 59th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
8 February 2022

Mr. Chair,

First of all, Thailand would like to express our sincere gratitude to the LTS working groups both the previous and the current ones who contribute their knowledge, endeavor, and time to push forward the guidelines. I am pleased to inform the STSC that Thailand realizes and is aware of the sustainability of uses outer space. We enthusiastically develop policies and practices to ensure that Thailand will be one of countries joining this space community to support the sustainability of outer space activities.

Starting with the Regulatory Framework, since 2020 we have put our effort to draft the national space policy. The space object registering is a part of our policy. Even though the whole space policy is not finalized but the space object registering policy is implemented already. To implement such policy, we develop mechanism to serve for the registration. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs still be the core agency connecting with UNOOSA while the space agency, GISTDA, is the key player for domestic procedures. Furthermore, we are always strict with practices related to radio frequency and orbital region which is under the responsibility of the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission.

In terms of safety of space operations, we established the laboratory known as "AstroLab" to carry on the research on the advance technology in the aspect of space debris protection and mitigation and link it to the space object operation. The initial purpose was to protect our own property in orbit but currently we have planned to expand our operation to cover neighboring countries to protect their own properties as well.

Another practice which emphasizes on how Thailand play importance to the safety of space operation is the establishing of three working groups to work on policy, techniques, and operation of space traffic management. The groups comprise civil, academic including private and military sectors.

Mr. Chair,

International Cooperation, capacity-building and awareness are of paramount importance to Thailand. We strongly believe on the power of cooperation, particularly in space cooperation. Escalating the awareness of sustainability uses of outer space in the official platform of Southeast Asian space community will be raised up in May this year. Thailand will push forward the safety use of space to be a domain under the ASEAN Sub-committee on Space Technology Applications. Furthermore, we will cooperate with international cooperation organization, APSCO, the cooperation among space agency in Asia-Pacific, to develop research and capacity building for APSCO members.

Lastly, Mr. Chair, I would like to reiterate that Thailand, even though categorized as an emerging space country, commit ourselves to cooperate with COPUOS member to keep the space safe and sustainable.

Thank you.
