NATIONAL STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE UNDER AGENDA ITEM 4 59TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 7-18 FEBRUARY 2022

Thank you, Mr Chair.

- 1. Singapore congratulates you on your election as the Chair of the 59th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. We would also like to express our deep appreciation to Director of UNOOSA Ms Simonetta Di Pippo for her dedication to the good work of COPUOS all these years. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.
- 2. Singapore recognises the importance of preserving outer space as a peaceful global commons, so that we may harness its potential for the collective betterment and benefit of humankind. Singapore welcomes the establishment of the Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, which will allow us to further the crucial work on the guidelines for long-term sustainability.

Singapore's space-related activities

- 3. Space continues to play a critical role in supporting civilian and government functions in Singapore, including in transport, logistics and telecommunications. We also have a growing local space ecosystem, with more than 50 companies and centres of excellence conducting space-related research and activities. Today, Singapore is engaged in a wide range of space-related activities, ranging from the design and manufacture of space components to the provision of satellite-based services.
- 4. Singapore's national space office, the Office for Space Technology & Industry (OSTIn), has been supporting the growth of Singapore's space industry since taking on its mandate less than two years ago. OSTIn has established a S\$150M Space Technology Development Programme to develop space capabilities for our national needs in domains such as aviation, maritime and sustainability, and is working closely with Singapore space companies to help them build technical capabilities and forge commercial partnerships. Last November, OSTIn and Amazon Web Services (AWS) signed a Statement of Strategic Intent and Cooperation, through which AWS will support

Singapore's efforts to develop our space industry through the provision of resources to support businesses, and train talent. The Statement is the first of its kind for AWS in Asia, and the collaboration will help support the development of Singapore as a regional hub for space innovation.

- 5. As a small island nation and a new member of the Space Climate Observatory, Singapore is particularly committed to supporting efforts at tackling climate change. Last August, the Earth Observatory of Singapore set up a flagship Remote Sensing Laboratory, which uses satellite data and innovative algorithms to monitor and analyse climate change and environmental crises. In the six months since it was established, the Laboratory has proved useful in supporting disaster relief efforts in the region, providing damage proxy maps following Typhoon Odette in the Philippines, the Mt Semeru eruption in Indonesia, and the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai eruption in Tonga.
- 6. We have also taken steps to deepen our international space partnerships and engagements. Last October, OSTIn signed a Memorandum of Intent with the European Space Agency to collaborate on initiatives relating to space technologies, applications and downstream services in telecommunications and related fields. OSTIn also participated in the International Astronautical Congress, during which it was inducted as a member of the International Astronautical Federation.

Our continued commitment to the objectives of COPUOS

- 7. Mr Chair, Singapore is committed to the objectives and purpose of COPUOS. We seek to forge stronger cooperation with partners in our region and beyond, to encourage the responsible and peaceful use and exploration of outer space for the benefit of humanity. We believe that small states and emerging space players too can play a constructive role in promoting the peaceful uses of outer space, and will continue to support efforts to promote an open, inclusive and rules-based approach to the responsible use of space by all.
- 8. Thank you, Mr Chair.

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