Thailand's statement
On Agenda Item 6: Space Technology
for sustainable socioeconomic development
by Mr. Natthawat Hongkarnjanakul,
Director of Office of Space Technology Development,
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Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Space is one of significant challenges today for all countries over the world. Common goal for us is to utilize technology from Space to develop both social and economic impact. Many entities in Thailand have more and more focused on Space Technology. Increasing of budget and workforce in Space domain is visibly perceived. Many businesses diversify to Space.

Recently, Thailand showed a good progress in Space science incorporated scientific disciplines. All of them are defined in National Roadmap of Earth Space System frontier research (ESS) under Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation. Not only Space frontier research was defined, but the challenges on Earth were also aligned in the roadmap. For example, Climate change, Geo-hazard Prediction, and impact from Global imbalance. This clearly exhibits the linkage between the benefit from space and the social impact on Earth.

For the space economy in the past year, it is the first time in Thailand we have Space cluster. We have started the cluster from satellite manufacturing, and ground segment business. This will be expanded to the wider space business or space application, as well as Space research and academia. Thanks to the attractive geolocation and Space promotion campaign in Thailand, the first FDI or Foreign Direct Investment in core space technology was in satellite ground segment. This can persuade and induce other space activities in Thailand and its region.

We are looking forward to seeing space supply chain in Thailand starting from our satellite program. Thus, numbers of companies were able to turn from their existing business to space, which have much more value added and are ready to capture the new wave.

Thailand's private sector plays an important role in space technology. Space startups also has a rapid growth. Government services from space data such as weather forecast, disaster management, air pollution detection, land uses and so on, are now driven by this private sector. The old model of big enterprises that uses satellite images to help social and planet for CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) purpose was totally changed. Today, the ones who love planet, who care about social benefits can run their business as "Social Enterprise". That's how some of startups in Thailand were born; thanks to satellite data.

Therefore, we aim to have more and more Social Enterprises in Thailand. Absolutely, an important tool for them to leverage their business is "Technology From Space"

Thank you Mr. Chair.