

Agenda Item 11: Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

Republic of Korea

UN COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee,

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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The Republic of Korea remains committed to upholding the preamble and the 21 guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, improving our national practice aimed at ensuring the safety, security, and sustainability of space activities.

Over the past decade, we have encountered a myriad of challenges stemming from the growing number of space objects and the increasing complexity of space activities. These challenges underscore the imperative for the development of robust regulatory frameworks and the establishment of new institutions to effectively mitigate risks and their potential adverse repercussions on the global community.

The adoption of the LTS guidelines document at the 62nd COPUOS session in 2019 marked a significant milestone. It equipped nations with the requisite standards to govern and execute space activities. We acknowledge that voluntary compliance with the LTS guidelines may pose

considerable challenges for aspiring space-faring nations striving to invest in space capabilities. The Republic of Korea's case may be helpful in finding ways to address possible challenges emerging from the implementation of LTS guidelines.

The Republic of Korea, in this regard, strives to develop open, transparent, and credible international standards, policies, and best practices, thus laying the groundwork for the promotion of secure and sustainable space activities. Notably, the ongoing revision of the 4th Space Development Promotion Basic Plan is aimed at overseeing the safe conduct of private space activities, while simultaneously expanding investments in technology development for space debris mitigation. Additionally, we are currently considering to submit Conference Room Paper regarding the domestic implementation of the LTS guidelines to the future COPUOS meetings. Lastly, we place great emphasis on raising awareness among diverse stakeholders, including established space entities, startups, academic institutions, and other relevant actors, with the aim of fostering voluntary adherence to the LTS guidelines.

I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Secretariat and the Chair of the LTS Working Group for convening the LTS workshop during STSC. The Republic of Korea values the opportunity to share its experiences in implementing the LTS guidelines with fellow delegations, engage in discussions regarding capacity building, and explore the potential for new guidelines. We welcome the exchange of insights and experiences with other nations on these pressing matters.

Mr.Chair

The Republic of Korea urges all members of the international community to actively participate and make constructive contributions to the work of the LTS Working Group, in full alignment with established international law governing the global governance of space activities.

Thank you, Mr.Chair.

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