

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPOUS)

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Sixty-second session

Vienna, 3–14 February 2025

Statement by the United Arab Emirates

Agenda item 10.

Madame Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

The United Arab Emirates recognizes and supports the efforts of all members states in the working group on the Long-Term sustainability of Outer Space Activities as well as the implementation of the Long-Term sustainability guidelines of outer space activities.

The UAE recognizes that the long-term sustainability of outer space activities is a matter of growing concern and urgency.

The significantly increased use of space in recent years, which is expected to double in the coming years, obligates all of us, to bear the responsibility of preserving outer space as a stable, safe, and sustainable environment.

Our national space policy emphasizes sustainability as a core principle. The UAE has taken several measures in alignment with these LTS guidelines, including:

- Developing national regulations that govern space activities, ensuring they comply with international standards for safety, debris mitigation, and the responsible use of the space environment.
- In addition to:
- Promoting awareness and capacity-building initiatives aimed at fostering a culture of sustainability in space.
- Through the Abu Dhabi Space Debate, we have created a platform to discuss pressing issues, including sustainability, accessibility, and security, bringing together diverse stakeholders to identify collective solutions.

Madame Chair,

With the increase of objects orbiting earth, Space Situational Awareness (SSA) became a priority in ensuring the safety and long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

As a contribution, the United Arab Emirates submitted a conference room paper entitled “Proposal for the Establishment of an Expert Group on Space Situational Awareness”.

The UAE held informal consultations on the margins of the current session with the objective of allowing a more in-depth examination and consultation of the proposal.

The UAE notes the importance of continuing the discussion on this proposal and, in light of the views expressed during the informal consultations, proposes the inclusion of the following text in the report of the committee:

The Committee had before it a conference room paper entitled “Proposal for the Establishment of an Expert Group on Space Situational Awareness”, submitted by the United Arab Emirates (A/AC.105/C.1/2025/CRP.20).

Some delegations welcomed the proposal to establish an expert group on space situational awareness contained in CRP.20, and in noting the importance of the matter, highlighted the desirability to have further discussions with a view to refining the proposal for a decision by the Committee at its sixty-eighth session regarding the establishment of an expert group.

The Subcommittee noted with appreciation that the United Arab Emirates would hold informal consultations on this matter in the intersessional period, facilitated by the secretariat.

Madame Chair,

The UAE remains committed to promoting space sustainability and looks forward to continued collaboration to advance these goals. My country recognizes that success is a result of collective international efforts, and we are committed to continuing these efforts in close cooperation with all member states.

Thank you.