Agenda 14: Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union By: Mr. Erik Mangajaya

Madam Chair,

With regard to the Outer Space Treaty (OST) of 1967, Indonesia believes that geostationary orbit (GSO), as part of outer space and a finite natural resource, possesses unique characteristics and conditions. Consequently, it should be treated as a distinct area within outer space.

We emphasize the need for specific technical and legal frameworks to govern the GSO, recognizing its strategic and economic importance to nations utilizing it. Due to the GSO's physical limitations, such frameworks should regulate the utilization of GSO in a rational, balanced, efficient, and equitable manner. These principles are essential to prevent saturation and ensure sustainable use of GSO.

Indonesia would like to reiterate that Article 44 of the ITU Constitution underscores that access to and allocation of the GSO must be conducted equitably, in compliance with the Radio Regulations. The global framework on GSO should ensure equitable access for all nations or groups of nations, considering the special needs of developing countries and the geographic circumstances of certain states, to achieve a fair balance in the use and management of orbital and spectrum resources.

Aligned with the objectives of Article 44, Indonesia highlights the urgency of ITU Resolution 219 PP-22 – Part II, which calls for relevant studies on optimizing the use of radio spectrum and orbital resources. This includes ensuring long-term sustainability and equitable access to both GSO and non-GSO resources, with rational and compatible utilization strategies.

Indonesia acknowledges the emergence of non-GSO mega-constellation satellites as a potential new approach to establishing nationwide telecommunications networks. However, due to unique geographical characteristics, geostationary satellites remain indispensable. Therefore, preserving geostationary orbit regions is of critical importance.

Furthermore, we note the ongoing imbalance in the distribution of GSO slots among countries and welcome the Long-Term Sustainability (LTS) Guidelines, which contribute to preserving the GSO. Nonetheless, further efforts are necessary to address this issue effectively.

Madam Chair, it is regrettable that despite repeated concerns expressed by member States regarding GSO utilization, the Subcommittee has yet to propose practical solutions to these issues. In light of this, Indonesia urges UNCOPUOS to continue working to facilitating

discussions with the ITU and formulating recommendations to enhance collaboration between the two bodies on the governance and sustainable use of the GSO.

Thank you, Chair.