

**Agenda Item 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.**

Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor. The United Kingdom would like to first thank the representative of the ITU for their attendance at these meetings and for providing regular updates regarding the work of the ITU relevant to COPUOS.

The United Kingdom recognises that access to the Geostationary orbit is important to all space faring and emerging space faring nations. Additionally, the UK recognises the need for institutions like the ITU to reduce the chance of interference when it comes to the use of Geostationary orbits. The UK would also like to take this opportunity to once again encourage and endorse collaboration between the ITU and COPUOS to resolve the growing issues we see in space, from work related to humanities return to the moon, to ensuring space remains dark and quiet for our astronomers. We can only find solutions to these problems through the distinct yet complimentary work of both the ITU and COPUOS.

With this in mind, United Kingdom would like to reaffirm that spectrum and the coordination of geostationary orbit slots is a subject within the remit of ITU, and we should try to ensure that we do not duplicate discussions which are better suited to expertise of other international bodies. This is why it is so useful to have bodies like the ITU speak here at STSC to inform us of the latest developments in subjects of interest to this Subcommittee.

Thank you, Chair.