

Agenda Item 15: DQS, astronomy and large constellations

Republic of Korea

UN COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, Sixty-second Session February 3, 2025

Thank you, Chair,

The Republic of Korea reaffirms its unwavering support for the protection of Dark and Quiet Skies. Safeguarding them from the potential impacts of satellite constellations is, we believe, one of the key agendas for COPUOS.

The Republic of Korea remains committed to advancing astronomical research while preserving our invaluable cultural heritage from potential disruptions caused by satellite constellations. At the same time, we recognize the indispensable role satellites play in our daily lives, including in communication, disaster management, and weather forecasting. This agenda provides a crucial opportunity to explore a balanced approach—one that safeguards Dark and Quiet Skies while maximizing the benefits of satellite constellations. Given the scientific and commercial significance of this issue, it must be addressed with broader engagement with diverse stakeholders, including governments, academia, industry, and civil society.

In this regard, the Korean Astronomical Society, representing professional astronomers and astrophysicists in Korea, plans to release an official statement emphasizing the importance of protecting Dark and Quiet Skies and encouraging its members to actively participate in relevant initiatives. Furthermore, outreach campaigns have been carried out with

stakeholders in the space science community and the aerospace industry, raising awareness of the challenges posed by satellite constellations and underscoring the importance of collaboration in addressing this issue.

The Republic of Korea is dedicated to continuing these efforts to raise awareness and fostering collaboration with all stakeholders. We stand ready to work with other COPUOS Member States to ensure the protection of Dark and Quiet Skies for future generations.

Thank you.

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