



Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Poland
to the United Nations Office
and International Organizations
in Vienna

Statement by the Delegation of Poland

62. Session of the STSC COPUOS

Vienna, 3-14 February 2025

Agenda Item 3- general exchange of views

Madame Chair,

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Polish delegation, I would like to express our gratitude to the UNOOSA for their dedicated work in preparation of 62. Session of the Subcommittee. I would like to express the appreciation for the Director, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini's work, especially for an excellent governance of the Office activities, as well as for ensuring the UNOOSA's efficiency, transparency and accountability. Polish delegation would like to thank Ms. Ulpia-Elena Botezatu for her leadership of the Subcommittee in 2024.

It was with overwhelming grief and sadness, that at the beginning of the year we informed the community of COPUOS about the passing away of Ambassador Andrzej Misztal - Chair of the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resources Activities since 2021 and a former chairperson of the Legal Subcommittee of the COPUOS. I wish to thank UNOOSA and numerous delegations for your kind words and warm memories of Andrzej and your recognition of his contribution to the COPUOS work.

Madame Chair,

I am pleased to announce that on 1st January 2025 Poland took over the presidency of the Council of the European Union. Our main goal to achieve within the upcoming 6 months is to implement the priorities set around the topic of security. We identify security & resilience as one of the most important space policy elements at the present time. Having that in mind, in our opinion, Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities continue to provide an effective framework to develop and implement the rules and norms supporting the safety, stability and sustainability of outer space activities.

Moreover, the international cooperation seems to be one of the key factors to build a secure and sustainable environment for conducting space activities. Polish delegation welcomes the establishment of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation, aiming to ensure the transparency of lunar activities and mutual control and coordination of entities active on the Moon and its orbit.

Madame Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

2024 was an exceptional year for Polish space sector and scientific community.

In July 2024, the suborbital ILR-33 BURSZTYN 2K rocket became the first Polish rocket to reach outer space. It is also the world's first rocket to use 98 % hydrogen peroxide as an oxidizer. All design work related to the construction of the ILR-33 BURSZTYN 2K suborbital rocket was carried out at Łukasiewicz – Institute of Aviation.

Then, in August 2024, EagleEye satellite was successfully launched into low-Earth orbit. EagleEye was Poland's largest and most advanced Earth Observation satellite, developed by collaborators from national industry and academia.

Furthermore, the preparations for Polish astronaut mission to International Space Station advanced in 2024. Technological and scientific experiments carried out by Polish astronaut at ISS will affect the development of medicine, biology, engineering and space technologies, including studies of the human microbiome, tests of new materials or projects involving the application of artificial intelligence. The Polish companies and scientific institutions strength their unique competencies and accelerate the commercialization of space technologies.

Madame Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union; we wholeheartedly understand the importance of implementation of the Outer Space Treaty principles for the preservation of a secure, safe and sustainable outer space environment.

We express our full solidarity with Ukrainian nation and we strongly advocate towards immediate suspension of the military operations and withdrawal of Russian occupation troops from the Ukrainian territory, with respect to the international law.

Thank you for your attention.