

**Indonesia**

**Agenda Item 5: Ways and Means of Maintaining Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes  
By Mr. Erik Mangajaya**

Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates,

Indonesia attached the importance of the UN General Assembly Resolution Number 77/121 of 2022 for our deliberations on peaceful uses of outer space, especially paragraph 18 and 19.

→ We urge all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to prevention of arms race in outer space.

Indonesia emphasizes the need for COPUOS to continue, as a matter of priority, to consider ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and its associated matters.

→ We view this matter to be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of outer space activities, including ways to promote international, regional and inter-regional cooperation, to that end.

Indonesia appreciates the crucial role of the COPUOS in strengthening outer space governance and achieving our common goals of a safe, secured, and sustainable space environment, among other through the adoption of...

→ Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and Long-Term Sustainability Guidelines.

We believe that these guidelines could continue to serve as guidance for protecting the space environment and advancing the key principles of international cooperation in the peaceful use of outer space.

My delegation believes that in the future we could also identify any other issues that could be agreed in UNCOPUOS to support and strengthen peaceful uses of outer space activities regime.

Additionally, Indonesia views the importance of continued cooperation between relevant UN fora, among others such as, Conference on Disarmament and the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) to consider cross-cutting issues related to space security domain and space safety, and sustainability domain.

Although these forums are security-related, they serve as efforts to contribute to the peaceful exploration, exploitation and use of outer space. We are of the view that any UN system discussions should be complimentary and supportive to each other.

Indonesia support annual joint panel discussion of the General Assembly's First and Fourth Committees on the possible challenges to space security and sustainability that could consider cross-cutting issues between the work of the COPUOS and the open-ended working group.

Mr. Chair,

Indonesia is in line with majority delegations that exploration and use of outer space and other celestial bodies shall be for peaceful purposes only and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development.

→ All space activities must be guaranteed to be free from all forms of threats, from space or terrestrial systems; and

→ This would also require international community to be more transparent in that regard.

Our Delegation would like to refer to the preamble of the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies which stresses that exploration and use of outer space must be exclusively for peaceful purposes for the benefit and in the interests of all countries,

In that regard, the interpretation "peaceful purposes" shall encompass the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS) and weaponization.

In our view, the elaboration of rules, norms and principles of responsible behavior, as well as transparency and confidence building measures (TCBM) would only be effective if they also lead and contribute to the formulation of a legally binding instrument on PAROS.

Thus, any other interpretation would not suffice to prevent nor reduce space threats and would be contrary to the spirit of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty.

As part of its efforts to advance norms of responsible behavior for space activities, Indonesia continues to support various UNGA Resolutions that contribute to international peace and security to prohibit weaponization of outer space or turn outer space into a domain for armed conflicts.

While we believe that these measures may partially contribute to reducing mistrust and enhance safety in outer space operation, they cannot represent as a substitute for an early conclusion of a legally binding instrument on PAROS.

To maintain international peace and security and advance international cooperation, Indonesia calls on all States, particularly those with significant space capabilities, to actively support the goal of peaceful use of space and the PAROS and to refrain from taking any actions that are in conflict with those goals and international law.

Mr. Chair,

Finally, Indonesia recommends that this agenda could continue be discussed in the next COPUOS meeting in 2024.

Thank you