

Check Against Delivery

Agenda item 13: Future Role of the Committee

Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates

As an apex forum of international cooperation in outer space, UNCOPUOS has made vital contributions to the development of the use of outer space activities worldwide. The importance of the committee is attested by the steady increase in its membership, reminding us that today, as in 1968, space is and must continue to be the province of all humankind. My delegation lauds the role of this committee for its unremitting efforts and the work being done to spur cooperation among countries in creating requisite capacity in the use of space-based systems to ameliorate socio-economic development. My delegation also recognizes that the work of this committee is instrumental in the development of an international legal framework under which we all operate in space today.

Mr. Chairman

In recent years, outer space has emerged as a medium that has abundant opportunities for commercialization. The proliferation and success of private enterprises in the space industry have led to a commercial race resulting in the rapid growth of space markets. My delegation believes that UNCOPUOS needs to be more active in formulating fresh regulations and /or reforming existing regulations in order to improve the monitoring of commercial space endeavors. The committee also must continue to play its role in facilitating a consensus on specific rules which want unified agreement in outer space laws.

Mr. Chairman

My delegation would like to work with all parties and jointly promote COPUOS' bigger role in the field of peaceful use of outer space.

I thank you.

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