Statement

By H.E. Dr.Pichet Durongkaveroj

Minister of Digital Economy and Society, Thailand
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Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon. It is a great honor and pleasure for me to be joining you today. And on behalf of the Thai delegation, I would like to congratulate UNCOPUOS for great achievements over the past years. I would also like to extend my appreciation to OOSA for all efforts the to organize this UNISPACE+50 High-level Segment forum. This, I believe, is a crucial step to communicate about space activities to actors outside the space especially during this time where roles of governments in the space affairs are gradually shifting from being the main operators to facilitators.

gentlemen, Thailand -- as and emerging space nation -- has an unwavering desire to deliver meaningful values from space to all sectors in the country. Presently, we are leveraging space technologies to achieve the country's vision, socalled Thailand 4.0 encompassing the three pillars of "Stability, Prosperity, and Sustainability," . Our current space activities can be loosely categorized into five groups: from building ecosystem for space technology development, space technology for sustainable development, space capacity building, space technology development, to space technology for policy planning,

Thailand realized that the country needs an administrative structure to manage and maintain our

interests in space. Currently the first space law is being drafted and in the process will establish the National Space Agency as policy making and policy regulation body of the country. The aims are to create ecosystem for all space related missions, namely earth observation, space-based communication, space exploration, space industry and space awareness.

Thailand has also actively participated in many regional space initiatives. For example, we provided support for the drafting of ESCAP's Asia-Pacific Plan of Actions on Space Applications for Sustainable Development. We also have contributed in activities under ASEAN Subcommittee on Space Applications, APSCO and APRSAF. We also will support initiatives of COPOUS and OOSA in Asia Pafic Region especially those aim to create and enhance capacity of space emerging coutries in the region.

A new line of space activity in Thailand is on Space Research and Exploration. We have created "Thailand Space Consortium" as a mechnism for space scientistes and engineers to interact and work together to develop research concepts and projects. Space research and space object observations platforms are also being designed and will be manufactured to support Thailand and international space research, experiments and exploration in the future.

Awareness on space, is also continuously carried out through "Space Inspirium" an instument to generate space inspiration by GISTDA. We also initiated a new activity on space experiment and exploration. The 1st Thailand Space Science and Exploration Forum was organized to encourage scientists outside space arena to engage with space activities. Scientists and students from various fields expressed their interests and submitted proposals.

Our last but very important space activities in Thailand, are under Thailand Earth Observation System Phase 2, or THEOS-2. THEOS-2 Project will develop 2 earth obervation satellites, one will be designed, assembled and tested in Thailand which will significantly boost up national and regional space industry value chain. Most importantly, THEOS-2 will co-create an area-based policy driven platform based satetellite and non-satellite informatics, or on "Actionable Intelligence Policy Platform" or AIP. AIP. will be among the first initiative that will utilize Big Data concept, Data Anlytics and Deep Learning approaches to be implementable for social and economic sustainablity. Coincidently, Prime Minister Thailand, General Prayuth Chan-o-cha, and of French President, Francois Macron, will witness the exchange of co-development contract between Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency, GISTDA, and Airbus Defence and Space SA, in Paris this coming Monday.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies, and gentlemen,

please allow me to conclude my statement by emphasizing the fact that international collaboration is key to success of any national space programs and activities. Thailand has passed the initial phase of developing space technology. Presently, we have capability to share infrastructure, hardware, software, knowledge and expertise. Thailand is committed to cooperate with COPUOS member countries as well as international organizations towards the peaceful uses of outer space.......Thank you.