



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA

Statement

By

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Before

**The sixty-fifth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space**

**Agenda Item 7: Report of the Scientific and Technical
Subcommittee on its fifty-ninth session**

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Vienna

“In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful”

Mr. Chairman;

Distinguished delegates;

This year’s session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee was the second session of COPUOS to take place under the pandemic condition in a hybrid format. We express our appreciation from the new elected chair of the STSC Ambassador Facetti of Paraguay for his conduct of 59TH Session and wish him success during his tenure of chairing the STSC. We also want to thank the acting secretariat and his staff for the excellent organization of this session in such challenging circumstances.

Resuming multilateral discussion on the most pressing issues facing the space community is of great importance to I.R.Iran. The STSC proved once again that it is an indispensable forum for the exchange of views on scientific and technical aspects of outer space activities and for fostering international cooperation in this regard.

Mr. Chairman;

Several countries in their statements -as echoed in the final report- highlighted the challenges and threats posed by the growing amount of space debris. The generation of a huge number of space debris which has been often produced by space fairing countries, restricts the access of others to congested orbits and threatens space assets and activities of other countries.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its concern about the existing and forthcoming situation of space activities in this regard and as many other States is of the view that active States in space should undertake their historical and substantial responsibility in mitigation of debris and put forward a doable plan to reduce their production of debris followed by a workable strategy to collect produced debris.

It is necessary to build required capacities and develop means and ways to knowledge sharing and technology transfer in this issue to make space debris mitigation, practical for implementation.

Mr. Chairman;

The Subcommittee was successfully agreed on terms of reference, method of work, and work plan on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities for the Working Group as the first priority as mandated. In accordance with its mandate, as the second priority the working group should identify and study challenges to the voluntary implementation of the adopted guidelines in particular by developing countries. That is why the adopted guideline document has two important sections on capacity building and international cooperation. As already mentioned by this delegation, developing countries are facing great challenges regarding the implementation of these adopted guidelines.

In order to achieve the main objectives of long term sustainability of space, it is important for the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to concentrate on areas such as building and promotion of capacities as well as transfer of technology to developing countries, all within the framework of international cooperation for the full, effective and non-discriminatory operation of these guidelines.

Developing countries should not be left behind or unfairly disadvantaged by space exploration efforts, and it is emphasized that the only way to ensure the sustainability of outer space activities is to continue to deliver the benefits derived from those activities to humanity as a whole through enhanced cooperation and collaboration.

We have to agree on addressing new challenges to the long -term sustainability of outer space in the coming meetings of LTS Working Group, whether these challenges are related to the operation or guidelines or challenges that are ignored by adopted guidelines. We should also strongly concentrate on raising awareness, capacity building and sharing experiences as a probano publico measures in the space activities. In that connection, as agreed in the context of adopted guidelines, international cooperation and capacity building would be essential for effectively addressing the demands and challenges of developing countries in their voluntary implementation of guidelines at the national, regional and global levels.

We are of the firm view that the implementation of LTS Guidelines should promote the safe and sustainable use of outer space for peaceful purposes, in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, without discrimination of any kind and with due regard for the principle of equity, and in this vein, we highlight the importance of international

cooperation and technology transfer as effective means for building capacity in countries with emerging space sectors for safe and sound implementation of LTS guideline by all Countries.