

Agenda Item 8: Report of the Legal Subcommittee on Its Sixty-First Session

Republic of Korea

Sixty-Fifth Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, June 3, 2022

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

The Republic of Korea would like to first express its sincere appreciation to the Chair of the subcommittee, Ms. Nomfuneko Majaja, and the Secretariat for the successful organization of the sixty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee.

We also wish to take this opportunity to highlight two agenda items discussed during the session early this year.

Korea attaches great importance to the faithful implementation of the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of outer space activities. During the sixty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee early this year, we witnessed consensus on concerns arising from space debris, particularly long-lived space debris. The Member States, including my own country, shared their national efforts in implementing the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines. The Republic of Korea adopted its own Space Debris Mitigation Recommendations for the Development and Operation of Spacecraft in 2020 and it will hold this year's Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee, as our delegation previously mentioned under Agenda Item 5. The Republic of Korea believes that we can facilitate further voluntary implementation of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines by sharing each country's best practices.

As for potential legal models regarding space resources activities, the Republic of Korea is of the view that these activities should be carried out under basic principles and norms. The Republic of Korea hopes that further discussions lead to the establishment of basic principles on exploration and use of space resources which can complement the Outer Space Treaty. And we believe that the Artemis Accords can provide meaningful guidance for the promotion of outer space activities.

We expect the upcoming five-year discussion through the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resources Activities to contribute to the establishment of related norms. The Republic of Korea expresses its commitment to engage constructively throughout the process. Thank you.

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