

Intervention of the Indonesian Delegation

Agenda item 6 : Ways and Means of Maintaining Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes

By

Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates

My delegation reaffirms the importance of implementation of UNGA Resolution 76/76 of 2021 on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. This resolution inter alia urges all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

Indonesia underscores that the exploration and use of outer space and other celestial bodies shall be for peaceful purposes only and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development. Therefore, all space assets for exclusive peaceful purposes must be guaranteed to be free from all forms of threats, from space or terrestrial systems.

Indonesia stands ready to constructively engage in the implementation of Resolution 76/231 on Reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviors, with a view to ensuring that it will align with Indonesia's desire to maintain outer space as a peaceful, safe, stable, secure and sustainable environment.

A number of Indonesian efforts have been done to contribute to maintaining outer space as a peaceful, safe, stable, secure and sustainable environment, among others:

- Indonesia has become a party to all the major international treaties/regulations related to outer space, including Outer Space Treaty, the Rescue Agreement, the Liability Convention and the Registration Convention.*

- Indonesia implements a number of recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures (TCBMs) in Outer Space Activities), including collaboration with other space faring nations for exchange of best practices and data sharing for spaceflight safety, registration of space objects within the UN register, and prelaunch notifications.*

- Indonesia has also implemented the space debris mitigation and the LTS guidelines particularly in development of own satellite, national policy and regulatory framework for space*

activities, safety of space operations, international cooperation, and also scientific and technical research and development. Indonesia also has contributed on national space legislation initiative (NSLI) dialogue together with member countries of Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF), that stresses practices of TCBMs and contribute to the LTS.

Indonesia's view that there's limited arms control principle in the 1967 OST so that implementation of all the instruments related to the outer space by member states, are one way and mean to ensure the peaceful uses of outer space, as norm of behavior in maintaining safe, secure, stable, and sustainable of outer space.

Mr. Chair,

I would like to recall that the Committee has the authority to promote international cooperation in space from scientific, technical and legal aspects, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 1472 (XIV) A of 12 December 1959. In our view, the Committee is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly with a political character, and thus should address international space cooperation beyond just the technical perspective, and keep up with current issues objectively.

Furthermore, the General Assembly, in paragraph 18 of its resolution 76/76 requested the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session. Committee should also continue to consider the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, including ways to promote international, regional, and interregional cooperation to that end. This demonstrated not only the great importance that the world community attaches to this issue but also the practical significance in discussing it.

In these regards, as part of the United Nations system, COPUOS should promote to all entities of that system order in achieving the Committee's fundamental objective of maintaining peace and security in outer space.

Indonesia believes that COPUOS issues relate closely and therefore should be conducted in parallel with the considerations of the prevention of arms race in outer space by the First and Fourth Committee, also the Conference on Disarmament. These forums have the mandates and responsibilities on strengthening the international basis for outer space to be used solely for peaceful purposes. This, among others, would also pave the way for further developments in international space law.

Finally, Indonesia recommends that this agenda continue to be discussed in the next COPUOS in 2023.

I thank you.