



**STATEMENT BY THE SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY OBSERVATORY**

The 66<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its sixty-second session**

**Read by:** Mr Mathieu Isidro (Communications & Outreach Manager)

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Chair and distinguished delegates,

Thank you for allowing me the floor. On behalf of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Observatory (SKAO), I am pleased to address the 66<sup>th</sup> Session of UN COPUOS on this important topic.

Chair,

We are deeply appreciative for the Symposium during LSC62 organized by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law on the theme “Legal aspects of a dark and quiet sky”. Ensuring the preservation of our near-Earth environment to undertake radio-infrared and optical astronomy research from the ground, and also to ensure its preservation for society more generally, is a matter of considerable concern to the SKAO and its Council.

Chair,

The SKAO continues to believe that UN COPUOS should provide normative guidance regarding outer space activities and in particular regarding potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources; legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee; Space Traffic Management; and Small-satellite technologies. We look forward to seeing these endeavours reflected in future national legislation related to space activities.

I thank you, chair.