

**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE
60TH SESSION OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE
VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 31 MAY - 11 JUNE 2021**

Thank you, Madam Chair.

1. Singapore thanks you, Madam Chair, for your leadership of the 60th session, and UNOOSA Director Simonetta Di Pippo and her team for successfully convening this meeting despite the challenges of COVID-19.
2. Singapore recognises the importance of preserving outer space as a peaceful global commons, to be harnessed for the collective benefit of mankind. The LSC retains a key role in upholding and strengthening the international legal regime governing outer space activities.
3. Like many other countries, Singapore depends on space-based technologies and applications to support important government functions and everyday life. Although we are a small country, and a relatively new space player, more than 50 companies and over 1,000 professionals in Singapore are engaged in a wide range of space-related activities, from designing and manufacturing space components to providing satellite-based services. We therefore hope to further grow our nascent but increasingly vibrant space sector.
4. However, even as the new space economy holds tremendous potential to support job creation and economic growth, increased space traffic from the commercialisation of space activities also brings about challenges such as space debris and orbital congestion. The international community needs to ensure that all parties conduct themselves in space responsibly and sustainably.
5. Singapore recognises that States' domestic regimes and systems concerning outer space activities are important in helping them better anticipate these new challenges, and in promoting the responsible undertaking of both existing and new space endeavours. As a relatively new COPUOS member, we hope to

learn from the experiences and best practices of other COPUOS members in this regard.

6. Singapore is also keenly interested in the ongoing discussions concerning international space law at various *fora*, and looks forward to contributing to such discussions with our own perspectives. In this respect, in January this year, the Singapore Government partnered with the National University of Singapore's Centre for International Law to co-organise a webinar on Outer Space and International Law. This event brought together a number of eminent experts to discuss the development of space law at the international and national levels. We are grateful for the support of the experts who participated in this event, which include our distinguished Madam Chair as well as UNOOSA Committee, Policy and Legal Affairs Section Chief Niklas Hedman.

Madam Chair,

7. Singapore remains committed to the objectives and purpose of COPUOS. We believe that small states and emerging space players can play a constructive role in promoting the peaceful uses of outer space. Singapore will therefore continue to support efforts at the UN and elsewhere to promote an open, inclusive and rules-based approach to the responsible use of space by all.

I thank you, Madam Chair.