India Statement in 60th LSC 2021

Agenda No.7: National Legislation relevant to peaceful exploration and use of <u>Outer Space</u>

Madam Chairperson and Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, Indian Delegation appreciates the initiatives of UNCOPUOS on this important agenda.

The international legal framework on the outer space activities consists of the treaties, principles and guidelines evolved through consensus under the auspices of UNCOPUOS. In the context of increasing participation of private and non-governmental agencies in outer space activities, pursuance of this agenda has become more important than before. To fulfill obligations under a Treaty to which a State is a party, requisite national policy and regulatory frameworks are required.

Madam Chairperson,

India is a party to the major international treaties and regulations, related to outer space such as Outer Space Treaty, the Rescue Agreement, the Liability Convention and the Registration Convention and has also signed the Moon Treaty. India has been complying with all its obligations as a State Party to these treaties.

Madam Chairperson,

Space activities in India are performed under governmental guidance with the active participation of other stake holders, including industry, academia and various R&D agencies in the country. With the growing demands for the space systems and services for national requirements and identifying the entrepreneurial spirit among the Indian private sector, the Government of India has announced reforms in the Indian Space sector. These reforms aim at greater participation of private players in the Indian space journey. A mechanism called Indian National

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Space Promotion and Authorisation Center IN-SPACe has been established by the Government of India for supporting the private industry in the space sector to regulate their space activities.

Madam Chairperson,

The Government of India is also considering suitable national space legislation to serve as a legal framework for future development of outer space activities. Existing sector specific policies in space domain are being revised and new policies are being worked out to provide a regulatory structure, which also enables participation of private sector in the space sector.

Thank you Madam Chairperson.
