

Thailand's statement
Agenda Item 4: General exchange of views
by Mr. Phee Choosri, Deputy Executive Director,
Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency
at the Sixty-First Session of the Legal Subcommittee of
the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
1 April 2022

Madame Chair,

Let me first take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to you, Ms. Nomfuneko Majaja from South Africa for your new role as a Chair of the Legal Subcommittee under the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). We are confident that, under your wise leadership, this session will reach fruitful results, even if in hybrid form. I also must express my gratitude to Mr. Niklas Hedman, Chief of the Committee, Policy and Legal Affairs, and his staff for the great efforts in furthering the work of the Legal Subcommittee. We are pleased that this Subcommittee continues to successfully provide sufficient support to the peaceful uses of outer space.

Madame Chair,

I would like to take this opportunity to present an update on our work in support of the aims of the Legal Subcommittee. Recently, Thailand enhanced its practice of the procedure of objects launched into outer space submissions, with the purpose of fulfillment to the implementation of LTS Guidelines, and encouraged Thai space operators to register their satellites with UNOOSA. In addition, Thailand developed the draft of national space law with the purpose of fulfilling national space legislation to comply with international space law and boost up the domestic economy. On 13th July 2021, the Cabinet of Thailand approved the concept of the draft of

Thailand's national space law. Currently, the law is under the legislative process. The purpose of the law is to assist Thai space actors, both governmental and non-governmental entities, by providing the initial practices and safety frameworks for conducting outer space activities. Moreover, it is intended to boost up Thailand's space program, by fostering new services and promoting the "New Space Economy" such as satellite broadband constellations, spaceport, space tourism, etc. We hope that this law will be the starting point to establish the enforcement authority for our national activities in outer space.

Madame Chair,

From Thailand's point of view, the international cooperation on capacity-building, training and education in space law is an important mechanism to promote peaceful uses in outer space. Earlier this year, during 24 - 26 January 2022, Thailand participated in the "Asia-Pacific Technical Advisory Mission" workshop arranged by UNOOSA and Japan. As a result of participating in the above-mentioned workshop, we learned how to implement international space law and maintain a safe, secure and sustainable space environment. Furthermore, our knowledge, attitude, and practice related to the fundamental principles of international space law and relevant national space legislation and policy have been developed. Therefore, we would like to encourage other countries to join the UN's capacity-building activities on space law and exchange information about regulations or practices regarding space activities in their countries.

Madame Chair,

Last but not least, Thailand would like to reaffirm our support for the draft "Five Year Workplan" of the Working Group on Legal Aspect of the Exploration, Utilization and the Exploitation of Space Resources under the Legal Subcommittee and look forward to working with you during the next two years.

Thank you for your attention.

