



Statement of APSCO Delegation
at the 61th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of
the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna, 28 March–8 April 2022

Agenda Item 9. Capacity-building in space law.

Thursday, 31 March, Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)

Friday, 1 April, Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)

Dear Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

It is my privilege to make this statement on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), regarding the Agenda Item 9. Capacity-building in space law at the Sixty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Dear Chair,

My delegation extends full trust and confidence in your leadership in steering this Session to a successful conclusion with positive support of the Secretariat. We

also appreciate the efforts of the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo and the Secretary of the Subcommittee, Mr. Niklas Hedman and the whole staff for planning, preparing and successfully organizing this virtual session.

Dear Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO, formally established in December, 2008 and completed more than a decade of successful cooperation. APSCO has entered in a new decade of its activities and a New Development Plan for APSCO activities (2021-2030) is under implementation. The new strategic plan on Space Law and Policy of APSCO focuses also Capacity Building in Space Law and Policy for Member States.

APSCO is contributing, as a responsible and important Inter-Governmental Organization, to building institutional capacity and space infrastructure, within its Member States in accordance with United Nations space-related treaties, principles and resolutions. APSCO is seeking to develop partnerships with other space-related inter-governmental Organizations, for the mutual benefits. APSCO organizes two knowledge exchange platforms biennially; ‘APSCO International Symposium’ and ‘APSCO Space Law Forum’. Since 2009, APSCO has organized, in Member States, nine International Symposiums; three Space Law Workshops in collaboration with UNOOSA, in 2009, 2010 and 2014 respectively. Besides these three Space Law Workshops, APSCO has also successfully organized ‘APSCO Space Law and Policy Forum’ in the years 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2017. In 2019, United Nations/ Turkey/ APSCO Conference on Space Law and Policy was organized.

APSCO in collaboration with European Space Agency (ESA) and China Institute of Space Law (CISL) organized the Space Law Workshop in Sanya, China on 6-8 September 2021. The theme of the workshop was “Regional Cooperation

Schemes on Space Law and Policy”. This workshop was organized under the knowledge exchange platform of APSCO. The workshop was attended by representatives from the Embassies of Bangladesh, France, Mongolia, Iran, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Russia and Turkey in Beijing and representatives from 10 universities from China, onsite. Besides, the delegates from APSCO Member States, ESA Member States and representatives from space agencies and space institutions from around 40 countries, participating online in the workshop. The proceedings of the workshop included abstracts, presentations, reports and conclusions was published after the workshop.

APSCO made continuous contact and cooperate with UNOOSA on Capacity Building. Ms. Yu Qi, the Secretary-General of Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO) and Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) signed APSCO/UNOOSA joint cooperation on capacity building in national space legislation for APSCO Member States on 15th February 2022, virtually, for Technical Workshop on National Space Legislation for APSCO Member States. The technical workshop includes four phases of implementation. Two phases are planned to be implemented in 2022.

APSCO also delivered a lecture on Space Law and Policy situation during the series of seminars organized by the Regional Center for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia / United Nations (RCSSTE-WE), Amman, Jordan, and the new Observer of APSCO, the Inter Islamic Network on Space Sciences and Technology (ISNET) in 2021.

A talk was also delivered on Issues and Challenges in the Capacity Building for Space Law and Policy, during Seminar on Space Law and Policy organized by the Inter Islamic Network on Space Sciences and Technology (ISNET) in 2021.

Dear Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO pays highest attention to our new generation, and cultivates the space talents. Master Program on Space Law and Policy with Beihang University through cooperation with China Scholarship Council has 11 graduate students from the countries Bangladesh, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Thailand and Turkey until now. Through the establishment of APSCO Space Law Alliance (ASLA), more opportunities could be provided to Member States' students in the near future.

Dear Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space helps to intensify and diversify national space programs and to bring the benefits of space technology applications to a wide circle of stakeholders, both governmental and non-governmental. Regulatory and policy frameworks at the national, regional and global levels provide States, in particular developing States, the necessary basis for their space activities. Considering the fast development of space sector and the challenging nature of regulatory perspectives of the space activities, the role of international and regional organizations in space have certainly become more important.

APSCO, as the Multilateral Inter-Governmental Organization, provides a platform for cooperative activities and capacity building in Member States in the field of space science, technology and its applications, space law and policy.

Dear Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO and its Members are strongly committed and strongly support international space cooperation especially through UNOOSA mechanism, and we welcome all nations to cooperate with us for exploring and exploiting peaceful uses of outer space to bring and share benefits to enhancing prosperity together.

APSCO is open to all Countries and the space community to cooperate for peaceful uses of outer space for exploring and exploiting through space cooperation.

I thank you all for your attention.

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