

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA

Statement

by

The Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

at

The Sixty-First Session of The Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS

on

Agenda item 11: General Exchange of Information and Views on Legal Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation and Remediation Measures, Taking into Account the Work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

> 28 March – 8 April 2022 Vienna, Austria

"In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful"

Madam Chair, Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentleman

Space debris is a common problem and a serious challenge for the safe operation of all space actors with different levels of development in space proficiencies. A significant portion of space debris in outer space belongs to the past activities of space-leading countries. Therefore, the most important priority should be assigned to clear operational orbits, mitigate and remove existing space debris.

The deployment of satellite mega-constellations has significantly raised concerns about the increased risk of space objects colliding. Space debris, as a result of these potential collisions, makes operational orbits unsafe for a long time.

In this respect, establishing an international mechanism in order to manage space debris and minimize its harmful effects on the safety of space assets of all States is emphasized, consider the rights and interests of all member States.

Madam Chair

The Islamic Republic of Iran is of the view that the implementation of the 2007 Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines is subject to the provision of developing countries and non-space faring states in upward relevant knowledge and technology for implementing Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and standards.

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