



G-77 AND CHINA STATEMENT DURING THE SIXTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE, FROM 28 MARCH-8 APRIL 2022, DELIVERED BY H.E. AZZEDDINE FARHANE, AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MOROCCO

AGENDA ITEM 12: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NON-LEGALLY BINDING UNITED NATIONS INSTRUMENTS ON OUTER SPACE

Madam Chairperson,

1. The Group of 77 and China underscores its firm conviction that the use and exploration of the outer space shall be carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes, for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and in conformity with applicable international law. With regard to information exchange, the Group encourages the States launching objects into orbit, in accordance with their commitments under GA Resolutions 1721 (XVI) of 1961, 1721 B and 1962 (XVIII), Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States and the Exploration and Use of Outer Space of 1963, to furnish information to COPUOS through the UN Secretary General, who is also requested to maintain a public registry, and consider establishing a national registry for the purpose of information exchange on its space object(s), as appropriate.

2. With regard to the Principles Relating to Remote Sensing of the Earth from Outer Space, adopted by the UN General Assembly¹, the Group underscores the importance of upholding the principle of promoting the availability of remote sensing data on a non-discriminatory basis, as this type of information is essential to the promotion of sustainable development in areas like agriculture, disaster risk reduction and management, climate change, and global health, and also promotes transparency and confidence among States.

3. The Group welcomes the General Assembly's adoption of the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries². The Group believes that this instrument is important as it further promotes international cooperation in a bid to maximize the benefits in the utilization of space applications for all States and calls on all space-faring nations to contribute to promoting and fostering international cooperation on an equitable basis and to refrain from introducing unilateral restrictive measures hampering this cooperation. It also underscores that particular attention be given to the interests of developing countries and that the Committee should be strengthened in its role as the main platform for the exchange of information in the field of international cooperation.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

¹ A/RES/41/65, adopted by the 41st UNGA on 3 December 1986.

² A/RES/51/122, adopted by the 51st UNGA on 4 February 1997.