



Statement by

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**Alternate Head of Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
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of Outer Space (COPUOS)
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Item 4: General exchange of views

Thank you, Madam Chair

Let me first take this opportunity to joining others in congratulating you Madam Nomfuneko Majaja of South Africa as the Chair of this important Subcommittee. I am confident that our work during this session of the Subcommittee will get a great benefit from your skill and experiences.

I would like to take this opportunity also to commend Dr. Setsuko AOKI of Japan for her excellent work as the previous Chair of the LSC.

I would also like to express our gratitude to Mr. Niklas Hedman, the Secretary of the Subcommittee and also Acting Director of the Office, and his team for the preparation of this session, despite the challenges of COVID-19.

Further, we also would like to extend our appreciation to the previous Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo for her excellent job in navigating the office in the past.

The Indonesian delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by Permanent Representative of Morocco on behalf of Group of 77 and China. We would further like to add the following remarks in our national capacity.

Madam Chair,

In this opportunity I would like to inform you regarding the new space agency organization structure in Indonesia.

Based on Presidential Decree No.78/2021, the mandate for space agency (under Law No.21/2013 on Space Activities) is currently held by National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN). Space technology development, application, and few roles in space authority is delegated to Aeronautics and Space Research Organization (that still used abbreviation of LAPAN). Indonesian participation in international space communities will be coordinated by Executive Director Indonesia Space Agency, which is under Primary Secretary of BRIN.

Madam Chair,

Indonesia is of the view that outer space shall be explored and utilized entirely dedicated for peaceful purposes and the interest of all humankind. Thus, let us together maintain and strengthen the principles of equal access, non-appropriation, TCBM, and responsible behaviour in outer space within the framework of international cooperation, taking into account also the needs of developing countries in an effort to achieve the goals of the Space2030 Agenda.

Let me share you some following topics that are important for Indonesia:

On agenda item of definition and delimitation of outer space, it is again my delegation's belief that the matters concerning State sovereignty over air space and the scope of application of outer space law and air law need to be clarified to reduce the possibility of disputes among States.

It is our concern that the absence of the definition and delimitation of outer space may create legal uncertainty that could affect the application of outer space law and air law.

Indonesia acknowledges the fact that there is a need to define and delimit outer space including for the purpose of regulating the non-state actors' activities in increasing commercialized space activities. Therefore, Indonesia would like to restate its position that spatial approach would be more appropriate to delimit outer space.

On the issue of the geostationary orbit (GSO), we are of the view that GSO is part of outer space, and according to the Space Treaty 1967, it is a limited natural resource. In this regard, the application of GSO shall be rational, balanced, efficient, and with equitable access for all countries without seeing their technical development in outer space technology.

In doing so, we should consider GSO as a specific area and special part of outer space, which needs a specific technical and legal governance as well. Therefore, in order to ensure the application of principles of equitable access for all States, particularly the needs of developing countries and countries which have special geographical conditions, my delegation believes that GSO should be regulated by a sui generis regime, according to Space Treaty and Article 44 of ITU Constitution.

On the issue of the legal aspect of small satellite, Indonesia is of the view that the use of the small satellite particularly on mega constellation should still ensure the safety, security, and sustainability of outer space activities.

Madam Chair, distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

To conclude, allow me reiterate that sustainability of space activities can only be achieved through the development of space technology and applications which are based on the principle of fair and mutual benefit, as well as full respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of States.

Furthermore, we are convinced that transfer of space technology and knowledge, through inter alia, technical assistance and adequate resources of COPUOS, remains an important factor in working together to utilize and explore outer space in peaceful manner. For the developing countries, capacity building from COPUOS will contribute positively to capabilities in enhancing outer space activities and efforts to become ones of the space faring nations for the greatest benefit of humankind.

We would like to inform this meeting that this year, Indonesia will host the 3rd Space Economy Leaders Meeting (Space20) theme Space for Digital, Blue, and Green Economy, held in June 2022. We also will host the 4th Ministerial Conference on

Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCAP, in October 2022.

We reserve our rights to provide further comments on each Agenda Item.

Finally, allow me to underline that the Indonesian delegation will continue to provide a strong support for the work and deliberations of this Subcommittee. In this spirit, we are convinced that the 61st session of the Legal Subcommittee will be successful.

Thank You, Madam Chair