



**Agenda Item 14: General Exchange of Views on the Application of International Law to  
Small-Satellite Activities**

**Statement by**

**Mr. Akio Alfiano Tamala**

Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia in Vienna

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Thank you, Madam Chairperson,

Having a unique archipelagic state condition, Indonesia attaches the importance of small satellite activities to connect and provide access to its citizens and regions. Thus, Indonesia has developed numerous small satellites and is taking advantage of the small-satellite technology.

Three indigenous satellites namely LAPAN-A-1, LAPAN-A-2, and LAPAN A-3 have been utilized for various fields.

The LAPAN-A2 satellite, or LAPAN-ORARI, has been orbiting in space for almost 7 years. The satellite has several missions, namely Earth monitoring, Ship Monitoring, Voice Communication and Data Communication. Furthermore, the LAPAN-A2 satellite has been used for various purposes, both research and emergency communications during a disaster, as well as has been used by radio amateurs in various equatorial countries.

On 6 January 2023, the Surya Satellite-1, or SS-1, which is the first nano satellite made in Indonesia, was launched into low earth orbit from the International Space Station using the deployment module owned by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency. We would like to extend our appreciation to JAXA and UNOOSA for their support of the SS-1 launching.

Indonesia will continue to develop small satellites and operate small satellite constellations in accordance with the applicable international space norms.

Madam Chairperson,

Indonesia takes notes with concern about the growing number of small satellites and mega-constellations that can impact to ground astronomy, Earth orbit, and Earth's upper atmosphere. In this regard, Indonesia believes that there are some elements that we need to discuss, including on issues related to:

- the Assurance of the rational and equitable use of the low Earth orbit and frequency spectrum;
- the Avoidance of operational interference and collision risks;
- the Conduct of International coordination and disclosure of information and data regarding of Space Situational Awareness activities; and
- the Facilitation of the registration of mega constellation satellites.

Regarding the facilitation of the registration of mega constellation satellites, we take note that states may use a spreadsheet format as stated in the background paper provided by the secretariat in document *A/AC.105/C.2/L.322* submitted at the 61<sup>st</sup> session of Legal Subcommittee 2022. This also will allow us to identify whether a space object is part of a large constellation or mega constellation.

Finally, since there are growing demand and planning for small satellite operations, Indonesia is of the view that there is a need to have international regulatory approach to address operations of small satellites, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the low Earth orbit and frequency spectrum.

I thank you, Madam Chairperson.

**Vienna, 22 March 2023**