



Statement of APSCO Delegation
at the 62nd Session of the Legal Subcommittee of
the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna, 20-31 March 2023

**Agenda Item 4. Information On the Activities of International
Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations Relating to Space
Law**

Madam 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 4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law, at the 62nd session of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Madam 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 Acting Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, Mr. Niklas Hedman and the Secretary of the Subcommittee for planning, preparing and successfully organizing this session.

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO is an inter-governmental international organization devoted on tapping regional resources, promoting multilateral cooperation in space science, technology and

APSCO, Item 4

applications and capacity building in space related fields. It provides a cooperative mechanism for countries to work together for the development of collaborative space programs & space capabilities.

APSCO currently has eleven Member States. That include 8 full Member (Bangladesh, China, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand, and Türkiye) one Signatory Member: Indonesia (ratification in process), one Associate Member: Egypt (ratification in process) and two Observers: Mexico and ISNET (Inter-Islamic network on Space Science and Technology). China is the host country for APSCO and the Headquarters of APSCO is located in Beijing, China. APSCO also has cooperative partnerships with Argentina and Russia on satellite data sharing and capacity building in space related fields.

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Space law and policy is one of the core areas of APSCO's Development Plan and is an essential element for APSCO's role to contribute in the inclusive development of Member States in the field of space. Apart from technical projects and training and education activities, legal and policy issues related to space activities holds equal importance and are equally crucial. In this regard, the "Strategy for Space Law and Policy of APSCO (2021-2030)" has been developed. This strategy focuses on enhancing the role of APSCO in the field of space law and policy to provide more practical benefits to Member States and strengthening the contribution of APSCO in the international community in the fields of space law and policy.

APSCO covers:

- Capacity Building of member States in Space Law and Policy
- Organizing Executive Courses for Leaders
- Cooperation with UNOOSA for Legal Advisory Services
- Cooperation on Knowledge Enrichment and Capacity Building on Drafting of National Space Policy
- Participation at the Legal Sub Committee of UNCOPUOS
- Cooperation with ITU
- Establishing Alliance with Institutes/Organizations of Space Law
- Conducting Research on Contemporary Issues in Space Law and Policy
- Supporting Joint Publications
- Creating Pool of Space Law and Policy Experts

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO promotes International Cooperation in Space Law and Policy and has been actively cooperating with international space community for various activities. In the year 2022, APSCO and UNOOSA have signed an agreement to have APSCO/UNOOSA joint cooperation the Secretary-General of APSCO and the Director UNOOSA signed a cooperation agreement for capacity building in national space legislation for APSCO Member States. Detailed presentation was given on this project under Agenda Item No 8. on “UNOOSA/APSCO Project for Capacity Building in Drafting of National Space Legislation for APSCO Member States”, to explain in the UNOOSA/APSCO work for technical advisory services for development of National Space Legislation in APSCO Member States.

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Developing regional and international alliance of space law institutions was listed as one of the key strategic areas in the “APSCO Strategy for Space Law and Policy of APSCO (2021-2030)” which was approved by the APSCO Council in 2020. The first meeting on APSCO Space Law Alliance (ASLA) was organized, 2021. The meeting was aimed at discussing the idea of establishing APSCO Space Law Alliance (ASLA). two more meetings were organized in 2022 and proposal was presented to APSCO Council. I am glad to share that the Establishment of APSCO Space Law Alliance (ASLA) was approved by the 16th Council Meeting of APSCO in 2022. Last month, we organized the Fourth Meeting of APSCO Space Law Alliance (ASLA) on to finalize the Terms of Reference (TORs) for ASLA. 48 representatives from 39 space organizations, institutions and universities from Member States of APSCO attended the meeting. We plan launch the alliance in the end of this year.

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO considers capacity building as the most crucial pillar for developing responsible behavior and promotion of international space law. APSCO has been making efforts to help its Member States and region by providing them opportunities related to capacity building in space law, that varies from degree education to training and consultation. A separate Statement was given under Agenda Item No 8, which covered details about the capacity building initiatives.

APSCO, Item 4

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO and its Members are strongly committed and strongly support international space cooperation especially through UNOOSA mechanism. APSCO is open to all countries and the space community to cooperate for peaceful uses of outer space.

I thank you all for your attention.

Aisha Jagirani (Ms.)

Director General

Department of External Relations and Legal Affairs (ER&LA)

Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO)