

**General Statement by the Delegation of Viet Nam at
the 57th Session of Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the
Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

Vienna, 03 – 14 February 2020

Madam chair, distinguished delegates;

On behalf of the Delegation of Viet Nam, I am pleased to see you chairing the 57th Session of Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. With your leadership and the excellent cooperation of delegations, we strongly believe that the Session will deliver on remarkable outcomes.

On this occasion, we also thank the UNOOSA for the excellent efforts to organize this important meeting.

Madam chair, distinguished delegates;

In order to foster the activities of research and applications of space technology, to strengthen the significant contribution of space technology to the socio-economic development of Vietnam, the Prime Minister of Vietnam approved the National Strategy for Research and Application of Space Technology up to the Year 2020 by issuing Decision coded 137/2006/QD-TTg in June, 2006. As a result, Viet Nam recently has been playing active role in the surrounding region for the development of space technology and its applications. We have expanded the cooperation in the area of space technology with different countries, such as India, Japan, France, Israel and United States of America and so on.

In addition, by recognizing the importance of remote sensing, on the 1st of February 2019, the Prime Minister has issued Decision numbered 149/QD-TTg for approval of the National Strategy for Remote Sensing up to the year 2030, provision to 2040. The Strategy is with three main direction:

(1) to develop remote sensing application by advanced technologies and facilities, having focusing point to the development of socio-economy of the country;

(2) to invest in remote sensing data acquisition systems, national remote sensing database, developing remote sensing technologies, monitoring by remote sensing in various areas; and

(3) to encourage and effectively mobilize social resources in remote sensing application development.

As you may see, there has been more than a year left for implementation of the National Strategy for Research and Application of Space Technology, and hence we are now on the road to build a new strategy for the years from 2021 to 2030 and beyond, in which we will focus on:

(1) To formulate national policies and legal frameworks for research, application and international cooperation, in particular a Law of Outer Space; to revise legal framework to encourage private sector to develop new business in space field.

(2) To build technical infrastructure for the development of space technology, in which a specific plan for development of Earth Observation satellites would be scheduled.

(3) To conduct R&D works through those to educate and reinforce human resource in both legal and technical aspects.

(4) To utilize space technology for management and development of natural resources (including land, forest and water) and environment, agriculture, fisheries, transportation, national security and defense.

(5) potentially, to have human in space after the first Vietnamese citizen and the first Asian in space in 1980.

It is expected that the draft will be submitted for approval at the end of June of this year. In the new strategy, Viet Nam would like to master the technologies for launching of small satellites with less than 200 kg to LEO.

Obviously, the above-mentioned drafting work will take into consideration on the Resolutions adopted by General Assembly about “space as a driver of sustainable development”, “international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”, Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on space applications for sustainable development, and other international norms.

Madam chair, distinguished delegates;

In 2019, the Prime Minister of Viet Nam has approved the Project of Viet Nam Space Center, in which a radar-based Earth observation satellite named LOTUSat-1 is expected to be launched sometime in 2020. The LOTUSat-1 would be designed and assembled in Japan with participation of Vietnamese engineers.

On this occasion, on behalf of the delegation, I would like to thank Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) for their efforts to organize the 26th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-26) in Nagoya, Japan, from 26 thru 29 of November 2019. Viet Nam commits to fully support to this annual event, in particular the organization of Space Policy Session.

As announced by Japan, the APRSAF-27th will be organized in Viet Nam, so on this occasion, we would like to welcome all of member states, observers and non-governmental organizations to participate in APRSAF 27th.

We would like also thank GISTDA of Thailand for organizing the Consultation Workshop on Space Law and Policy in Asia-Pacific region from 7 to 9 of April, 2020 in Bangkok, Thailand, and so commit to send a delegation to participate in this event.

Madam chair, distinguished delegates;

To conclude, on behalf of the delegation, I would like to express commitment of Viet Nam to, full and continuous support to the work of the this Sub-Committee and the Committee.

Thank you for your kind attention.