

# India

## Agenda Item – 13

### Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

#### **Mr. Chairman and Distinguished delegates,**

Recognizing the importance of safety and sustainability of outer space activities in the rapidly changing space scenario, the Indian delegation welcomes the adoption of 21 guidelines for Long-Term Sustainability (LTS) of outer space activities. India is committed to the implementation of these guidelines in its space activities to the extent possible. It is also equally important to make progress in continuing to identify the challenges to long-term sustainability, sharing the experiences and lessons learnt from practical implementation of adopted guidelines and contribute towards awareness raising and capacity building, especially in the developing countries and emerging space fairing nations. Towards these efforts, contributions and cooperation of all the Member States to the work of the new Working Group on LTS would be very crucial. The Indian delegation assures its full support to the new Working Group for carrying out its mandated work in a time bound manner.

#### **Mr. Chairman,**

As a major space fairing nation with a space programme primarily devoted to the national development and governance, India has been implementing many measures and practices related to the agreed LTS guidelines including registration of space objects with the UN register, prelaunch notifications, measures in line with UN Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines, participation in Inter Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) activities undertaking Space Object Proximity Analysis (SOPA) and Collision Avoidance (COLA) Analysis and numerous international cooperation activities.

With the project on NEtwork for space object TRacking and Analysis (NETRA), India has channelized its efforts in Space Situational Awareness and also joined the international efforts towards tracking, warning and mitigating space debris. The observational and

computational capabilities for space objects tracking and management are being enhanced under the scope of project NETRA.

**Mr. Chairman,**

India has taken several measures in awareness raising and capacity building in outer space activities, especially for the benefit of developing and emerging space fairing nations. ISRO's 8-week on-the-job training programme on nano-satellite development, UNNATI announced by India during UNISPACE+50 has benefited participants from 33 countries. ISRO also hosts the UN affiliated Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific (CSSTEAP) which has been playing a major role in human resource development in space science and technology for sustainable development of the region and has benefited 3420 participants from 109 countries.

India announced opening up of the space sector for non-governmental entities in June 2020 for utilizing the full potential of the space based applications for the economic development of the nation. This is being followed up with draft legislation on space activities and sectorial space policies, for enabling safe and sustainable space activities from Indian soil.

In conclusion, India attaches highest importance to long-term sustainability of outer space activities and is committed to play a responsible role in the international efforts towards preserving benefits of outer space for the future generations.

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates.**