

Thank you.

Item Agenda 17 : Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union

Thank you, Mr. Chair

In accordance with OST 1967, GSO as a part of outer space and considered as a limited natural resource having specific characteristics and conditions, possesses a strategic and economic value for the countries that use it. As a consequence of the physical limitation of GSO, it should be utilized in a rational, balanced, efficient, and equitable manner. These principles are very important to be implemented in order to prevent GSO from saturation.

Significantly, Article 44 of the ITU Constitution clarifies that access to and allocation of the GSO shall be done on an equitable basis, in conformity with the provisions of the Radio Regulations, so that countries or groups of countries may have equitable access to those orbits, taking into account the special needs of the developing countries and the geographical situation of particular countries, in arriving a balance in the use and management of the orbit/spectrum resources.

We understand that present and future mega-constellations of satellites perhaps could bring a new approach to establish of nation-wide telecommunication networks. However, geostationary satellites would continue to be irreplaceable for Indonesia due to the unique geographical conditions under which it operated, and thus there is a strong need to preserve the geostationary orbit region. In addition, geostationary orbit slots are not proportionally distributed among countries. We welcome the Guidelines LTS which protect GSO region even though more efforts are required to preserve GSO.

It is very unfortunate that despite numerous and repeated concerns expressed over the years by member States under this agenda item relating to the use of the geostationary orbit, to date, the Subcommittee had not developed any practical solutions to address those concerns.

In this respect, my delegation would like to propose that UNCOPUOS will continue the efforts to urge, discuss with, and provide recommendations to the ITU to streamlining discussion between the two bodies about the issues of GSO's utilization.

In such consideration of the interest and needs of the developing countries, as well as their geographical position, we would like to request that the GSO remain on the agenda for the 60th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS in 2023.

I thank you, Chair.