



**STATEMENT BY
DIRECTOR GENERAL
MALAYSIAN SPACE AGENCY (MYSA)**

**THE 60TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE (STSC COPUOS), VIENNA
6 - 17 FEBRUARY 2023**

AGENDA ITEM 3: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Thank you, Mr Chair,

On behalf of Malaysia delegates, I would like to express our gratitude to Ambassador Juan Francisco Facetti for your chairmanship of the 60th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS. We also extend our appreciation to your dedicated staff, especially the secretariat, for preparing the documentation and planning for the administration and logistics of this meeting. We assure you and all member states our full support for this session.

2. Malaysia would like to express its high appreciation for the work that COPUOS and its subcommittee have carried out as the leading international forum in promoting international cooperation on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space.

3. Malaysia associates itself with the Group of 77 and China statement and would like to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

Mr Chair,

4. Malaysia is willing to engage in discussions with this Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. For this, Malaysia looks forward to working closely with the Working Groups under this subcommittee, including the Working Group on Long-Term Sustainability (LTS) 2.0. Malaysia aspires to contribute constructively, including discussions on the details of the terms of reference, work methods and work plan of the working group.

5. Malaysia is of the view that to implement the 21 guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities for peaceful purposes, it is imperative to intensify awareness programmes or initiatives and enhance the capacity building as well as experience sharing between the developing and developed countries to increase the understanding of the importance of protecting the sustainability of future outer space activities.

Mr Chair,

6. The development of the space sector in Malaysia is guided by the National Space Policy 2030, which was established in 2017 to state the country's stance and goals in developing the country's space sector to support economic development and knowledge advancement for the well-being of the people. To achieve the objective and successful implementation of the policy, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), through the Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA), has developed a national space action plan known as Malaysia Space Exploration 2030 to spur the growth of the country's space sector. This action plan outlines strategies, initiatives and programs until 2030, aiming

to create a sustainable national space ecosystem that will contribute to the competitiveness and well-being of the country.

7. To ensure the safety and sustainability of outer space, Malaysia has gazetted the Malaysian Space Board Act 2022 [Act 834] on 25 January 2022 and came into force on 4 August 2022 on certain provisions. Under this Act, the Malaysia Space Board and the Space Regulatory Division under MOSTI were established in July 2022 to enforce and regulate the country's space sector activities and ensure that the country's space activities are carried out according to relevant international rules and guidelines. Malaysia is currently enacting the Malaysian Space Board Regulations to enable the Act to be fully enforced by early 2023.

Mr Chair,

8. Malaysia realises the importance of and the need for space technology, including satellite data and information for national development, resource management, disaster and security, and communication. Therefore, through a private company called MEASAT (Global), Malaysia successfully launched MEASAT-3d satellite on 23 June 2022.

9. In addition, there are other private sector initiatives in the research and development of Femto-class satellites and a constellation of small satellites in Low Earth Orbit to provide regional internet services. Satellite development programmes, especially Cubesat and Nanosatellites, are also implemented in several local universities for education and research programmes. Among the universities that are actively participating in these activities are Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Universiti Putra

Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), and the University Teknologi Malaysia (UTM).

10. Malaysia also contributes expertise at the regional level through the ASEANSAT Nanosatellite Project. ASEANSAT is a cooperative research programme between the Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), University of Perpetual Help System DALTA (UPHSD), Philippines, King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (KMUTNB), Thailand, and Kyushu Institute of Technology (KYUTECH), Japan. The Nanosatellite is being built locally by utilising related facilities and expertise in UiTM and Malaysia Space Agency (MYSA), funded under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI). The ASEANSAT is targeted to be launched in the first quarter of 2023 to the International Space Station, after which the satellite will go into a low earth orbit.

Mr Chair,

11. The aim of the space science and technology awareness programme is to foster students' interest in space science and technology to ensure that the country has a sufficient supply of talent in the field of space technology in the future. Malaysia has implemented the programme with strategic partners from universities, NGOs, and the private sector under National Science Week every year since 2018 to cultivate interest in science, technology and innovation. This year, Malaysia organised a total of nine activities and competitions, including Junior Rocket Tech Exploration, Code War Competition and MySTEM@Space, with the participation of 34,650 students.

12. Meanwhile, in conjunction with World Space Week 2022 under the theme of "Space and Sustainability", Malaysia has organised several exciting programmes for various walks of life, such as a short video competition with the theme "space sustainability" and a virtual exhibition of space chivalry from 4th to 10th of October 2022.

Mr Chair,

13. Malaysia has actively participated in many international and regional space initiatives, especially those involving human capital and expertise development organised by the UNOOSA, the ASEAN Subcommittee on Space Technology and Application (SCOSA), as well as Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF).

14. Under the UNOOSA capacity building initiatives, Malaysia is currently involved in the National Space Legislation Initiative Phase 2 and successfully hosted the Malaysia Technical Advisory Mission 2022 under United Nations Space Law for New Space Actors Project on 21-23 November 2022. Malaysia is also working on establishing a Regional Centre for Studies and Research in Space Law and Policy. These efforts include capacity building, training and education in space law and will be implemented through the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Space Technology and Applications (SCOSA) Expert Exchange Seminar starting in 2023. In addition, under the APRSAF Space Frontier Working Group (SFWG), Malaysia participated in Asian Herb in Space (AHiS) and Kibo Robot Programming Challenge (KPRC).

15. To conclude, Malaysia looks forward to further strengthening the cooperation with UNOOSA and Member States in promoting access to programs that can support the attraction of investment, research and development in the country.

With that, Mr Chair, I thank you.