

60th Session of Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS
Thailand Statement on
Agenda item 7. Space Debris, February 8th, 2023

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates

Thailand realizes that the continuing increments of space debris are critical threats to sustainability of space activities. We dedicate to adopt the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space into Thailand space policy. In the past year, the space policy, international cooperation and researches on space safety and security are contained in the Thailand National Space Master Plan acknowledged by the cabinet of Thailand. The research and international cooperation of space safety and security projects were also proposed to Sub-Committee on Space Technology & Applications known as SCOSA and the sub-committee members have accepted and supported to encompass the priority project in the master plan, which will be completed in 2025. This cooperation leads to promote, facilitate, exchange and share the information including enhancing technology capabilities on space debris mitigation of ASEAN region.

Presently, National Space Policy Committee of Thailand established Sub-Committee dedicated to Space Situation Awareness and Space Traffic Management. The sub-committee is responsible for policy formulation and planning, monitoring and management related to SSA and STM, including response measure implementation.

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Last year, Thailand had the excellent chance to participate and present the space policy and research activities of space debris mitigation in

the 40th Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) annual meeting at Jeju Island, the Republic of Korea. Thailand would like to thank you to all IADC members for their warm welcome and suggestions to develop our policy on space debris.

With the purpose of enhancing capability to acquire space object data and orbital information, Royal Thai Air force has carried operation and research unit on Space Situation Awareness. Thailand also established Space Surveillance monitoring system operated by Thai National Observatory operated by National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT). The systems are conducted to detect information of space objects and track space debris.

Recently, Thailand achieved capability enhancement of space traffic management system known as “ZIRCON” developed by Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (Public Organization) or “GISTDA”. ZIRCON can effectively monitor and warn the re-entry of space objects that are potential risky to Thailand. Moreover, the center provides services on automatic satellite trajectories, screening the risky objects, collision risk assessment analysis, collision avoidance strategy and visualization on Space Traffic Management for Thai satellites. Space debris research is also in the scope of the center. Even we are an emerging space country, Thailand intends to contribute tackling space debris challenge as much as we can.

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Lastly, Thailand places importance on collaborations with all nations to synergize the efforts to mitigate and remedy the space debris concerns. The best practices on safety and sustainability of space operations are being implementing in the country aiming to preserve safe space environment for our next generations.

Thank you Mr. Chair.