

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA

DELIVERED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL MALAYSIAN SPACE AGENCY (MYSA)

THE 61st SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (STSC – COPUOS), VIENNA 29 JANUARY – 9 FEBRUARY 2024

AGENDA ITEM 4: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND INTRODUCTION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED ON NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Madam Chair,

I would like to congratulate Ms. Ulpia-Elena Botezatu of Romania on your election as Chair of the 61st Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS this year. We assure you of our full support and active participation throughout the session.

I also wish to express our gratitude to Ambassador Juan Francisco Facetti of Paraguay, for his able stewardship of the 60th Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS. Thank you for creating a conducive environment for productive discussions and collaborations. Furthermore, our deepest appreciation goes to the Director of UNOOSA and her team, for all their dedication and high professionalism in managing the organisation's affairs.

Malaysia aligns itself with the statement made by the Group of 77 and China and would like to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

Madam Chair and distinguished delegates,

2. My delegation is pleased to share the progress of our space activities since the last meeting of this sub-committee.

3. As a manifestation that the space sector is one of the country's main agendas, the National Space Policy 2030 Action Plan, known as the Malaysia Space Exploration 2030 (MSE2030), was launched by the Prime Minister on the 24th May 2023 to drive the growth of national space sector and create a sustainable and comprehensive national space ecosystem. MSE2030 outlines 15 strategies, 27 initiatives and 76 main activities planned until 2030. It focuses on improving governance management, strengthening space technology infrastructure, building local expertise, developing competitive local space industry capabilities and strengthening international cooperation.

4. Recognising that the development of the space sector will not succeed without strong involvement from industry players, the Space Industry Strategic Plan 2030 (SISP2030) was also launched on the same day by the Deputy Prime Minister. This strategic plan serves as the main reference to drive the country's space industry in a more planned manner, aiming to enhance competitiveness and boost confidence and interest of both local and foreign industries. The goal is to attract investments into te the country's space sector to achieve the target of contributing 1% to the country Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030. To support these efforts, the Malaysian Space Industry Corporation (MASIC) was established with the objective of positioning Malaysia as a competitive space hub, contributing to the country's economic development through the space industry and creating a dynamic space industry ecosystem that promotes Malaysia's space capabilities while attracting investment, talent and partnerships from around the world.

5. The launching of these three (3) initiatives were implemented during the SpaceTech Nexus program, organised in conjunction with the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA'23) held from 23rd to 27th May 2023. In addition, the Langkawi International Space Forum was held with the objective of providing a new space economy cooperation platform to drive the growth of the

national and regional space sector. The five-day program also included bilateral meetings, the ASEAN Head of Space Roundtable meeting, commercial exhibitions and MoU signing ceremonies.

Madam Chair and distinguished delegates,

6. Since the gazettement of the Malaysian Space Board Act in 2022, Malaysia has continued its effort to enforce and regulate the country's space sector activities in accordance with relevant international rules and guidelines through the Malaysian Space Board and the Space Regulatory Division under our Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI). In addition, Malaysia has taken steps to establish a research and development (R&D) hub in space policy and space law with the objective to increase collaboration in R&D; provide expertise and consultation, offer shared infrastructure and facilities, as well as becoming the reference centre of related fields. Recognising that consolidated effort is essential in promoting and supporting responsible space activities, Malaysia is extending the initiative to ASEAN, offering space law capacity building and legal advisory services for regulatory authorities of new and emerging space-faring nations in the region. On the 25th and 26th October 2023, Malaysia successfully hosted the first Expert Exchange Seminar on Space Policy, with a focus on Empowering ASEAN Space Capacity towards New Space Economy which was extended by representatives from the UNOOSA, BRIN, GISTDA, PHILSA and OSTIN, among others.

7. It is also my privilege to inform you that Malaysia has successfully launched the A-SEANSAT-PG1 (PG1) satellite on the 27th June 2023 with the main mission to monitor and track ships using the Automatic Identification System (AIS). Carrying a remote sensing camera with a resolution of up to 5 meters, the PG1 satellite is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) nanosatellite that was developed through collaboration between a local industry, ANGKASA-X and a public university, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). On 11th November 2023, our first picosatellite, the SpaceANT-D, was successfully launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California, United State (US). Designed for IoT applications, the satellite was developed by local industry, SpaceIn in collaboration with USM and the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society (MARTS).

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8. In line with Thrust Two of the National Space Policy 2030, which focuses on space technology, infrastructure and application significant to the nation, the National Space Committee (JANGKA) on 2nd November 2023 endorsed the Feasibility Study Guideline for the Development of Launching Facilities in Malaysia to facilitate any entities that are interested in carrying out the feasibility study while avoiding any gaps or overlap with our legislations currently in force. The guideline is applicable and can be used by all parties who intends to develop launching facilities in Malaysia.

Madam Chair and distinguished delegates,

9. We acknowledge that the work ahead will be more challenging for an emerging space nation like Malaysia, especially in implementing MSE2030 towards driving New Space Economy. Therefore, Malaysia wishes to strengthen and expand its bilateral and multilateral relations by promoting access to programs that can support the country's attraction of investment and R&D. For example, the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) was signed in Tokyo, Japan on the 16th of December 2023, with the objective to strengthen collaboration in space science, technology and applications as well as human capital development between the two countries.

10. Various Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic (STEM) enculturation activities have been held at the national level involving Government agencies, industries, academia and NGOs throughout the year. Notably in the month of October, we have a Malaysia Chapter to enliven the celebration of World Space Week 2023 with the theme 'Space Entrepreneurship'. The activities included exhibitions, inter-school and universities competitions, radio telecommunication with ISS, quality day, space day, seminars, conferences, engagement sessions and international collaboration projects. Besides that, National Space Week is one of MOSTI's yearly initiatives in the effort to mainstream innovation activities and the national creativity of the citizen. To date, more than 120 activities involving various age levels have been held, with the participation from students and communities from all over the country.

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Madam Chair and distinguished delegates,

11. Malaysia recognizes the continuous and constructive works of the Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. We are committed to implement the Guidelines on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. Malaysias looks forward to contributing to the workshops and discussions during this session of the Subcommittee.

12. Finally, Madam Chair and distinguished delegates, Malaysia pledges to contribute to the development and implementation of norms that support a safe and sustainable outer space. We look forward to an effective session to further our discussion and cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space.

I thank you, Madam Chair.