



General Exchange of View (Agenda 4)

Statement Delivered By the Federal Republic
of Nigeria

At the 64th Session of the United Nations
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer
Space

Vienna, 24th August- 3rd September, 2021

Mr. Chairman,

1. My delegation joins other delegations before us to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of COPUOS. We assure you of our support and cooperation as you preside over the deliberations of this Committee.
2. I also avail myself this opportunity to commend the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA), Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo and her team of dedicated staff for the excellent preparation made in putting in place adequate arrangements for the 64th Session of this Committee.
3. My delegation also joins other delegation to welcome the Dominican Republic, Rwanda and Singapore as new members of the Committee.
4. Nigeria also aligns with the statement delivered by the representative of Costa Rica on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and will like to make the following statement in her National capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Nigeria reiterates its support to this dynamic Committee which continues to ensure that its mandate of promoting the peaceful uses and exploration of outer space is achieved. Furthermore, Nigeria commends the good work done during the deliberations of both the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee in 2021.

Mr. Chairman,

6. It is the view of my delegation that securing the future of outer space begets an assured future of our world, for without space technology and its applications; we would not have been able to study our environment and understand it well enough to seek out means to sustain it. This is why negotiating an agenda and in this particular instance, the Space2030 Agenda is crucial to achieving the development agendas of the UN. In this regard, my delegation would like to commend the efforts and the work of this Working Group.
7. Nigeria will continue to reiterate its commitments to the use of space science and technology for the improvement of the quality of life of its citizenry. During the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown period, Nigeria embarked on 25 key space research and development projects (called the quick win projects) which were targeted towards this purpose. I am pleased to inform you that a major

achievement of one of these research projects is the building of the first made in Nigeria satellite (Edusat-2).

Mr. Chairman

Distinguished delegates

Edusat-2 is a 1U Cubesat carrying a 433.700 MHz DigiSinger, a 256m resolution slow scan television (SSTV) imager for mapping and security applications. Arrangements are being made to launch the spacecraft into orbit in 2022. The Edusat-2 will be controlled from a ground segment designed and built by Nigerian scientists and engineers.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Nigeria has continued to focus on strengthening her existing institutional and human capacity in order to bring the gains of space science and technology to its society. In this regard, our researchers have continued to work assiduously to utilize the available resources to meet Nigeria space stakeholders' expectations in terms of application of space technology to land administration, national security, capacity building, training and retraining of staff as well as innovative product development .

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

9. Towards developing capabilities and self-reliance in radio astronomy instrumentation, Nigeria through its Centre for Basic Space Sciences (CBSS) Nsukka commenced the design and fabrication of 10m radio astronomy dish antenna suitable for L-Band applications. The design and simulation of all critical subsystems and operational parameters were handled indigenously by our team of scientists and engineers. Consequently, the dish antenna support ribs are currently being fabricated at the Centre.

Mr. Chairman,

10. Nigeria will continue to work with other African Member States at promoting space science and technology in the Region through African Union, the African Leadership Congress on Space Science and Technology for

Sustainable Development, the Africa Resource and Environmental Management Satellite Constellation and other Regional and Sub-Regional fora/platforms.

Finally Mr. Chairman

11. Nigeria would like to emphasize the need for the exploration and uses of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes and also calls on the prevention of the weaponization of the outer space and to preserve peace and security to the benefit of human kind.

12. My delegation also strongly reiterates its position on equitable access to space domain for all actors regardless of the level of space technology development and advancement each actor has attained

Thank you.