

Singapore, Item 4

**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE  
64<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF  
OUTER SPACE  
VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 25 AUGUST- 3 SEPTEMBER 2021**

---

Thank you, Mr Chair.

1. Singapore congratulates you on your election. We are confident that under your leadership, the Committee will continue to make important contributions to ensure the long-term sustainable development and peaceful use of outer space. My delegation also extends our gratitude to UNOOSA Director Simonetta Di Pippo and the Office for their work in supporting this session despite the challenge of COVID-19. We would also like to thank all those who have congratulated and warmly welcomed Singapore becoming a member of COPUOS.

Mr Chair,

2. Like many other countries, Singapore depends on space-based technologies and applications to support important government functions and everyday life, including urban planning, weather monitoring, and telecommunications. It is thus our firm belief that outer space should be preserved as a peaceful global commons, to be harnessed for the collective benefit of mankind. To this end, COPUOS remains a key platform for international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and my delegation is pleased with the progress made on the Space2030 Agenda, which sets an ambitious agenda for international space cooperation in the years to come.
3. At the same time, increased space traffic from the commercialisation of space activities has brought about challenges such as space debris and orbital congestion. It is imperative that the international community continues its efforts towards promoting the responsible and sustainable use of space. To this end, the Committee's adoption of the voluntary guidelines for the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities in 2019 was an important milestone. Singapore will do our part in our continued collective efforts to strengthen and

maintain the relevance of the global space governance framework, including in keeping pace with latest technological advances. We also look forward to the deliberations of the LTS Working Group.

Mr Chair,

4. Building local capacity is especially important for small states and emerging space players like Singapore. This includes establishing and strengthening domestic regulatory regimes for space activities, to promote the responsible undertaking of both existing and new space endeavours. Being new to COPUOS, Singapore hopes to learn from the experiences and best practices of fellow members.
5. Being a small island nation, we are also committed to leveraging space-based technologies such as remote imaging, sensing, and other applications to help us tackle common challenges, especially climate change. Singapore recently became the 30<sup>th</sup> member of the Space Climate Observatory (SCO), and has been participating in consultations led by UNOOSA to draft the SCO's International Charter.
6. At the national level, more than 50 companies and over 1,000 professionals in Singapore are now engaged in a wide range of space-related activities, from designing and manufacturing space components to providing satellite-based services. It is our goal to continue creating opportunities for players in Singapore's space industry, including making greater investments into satellite technology R&D and talent development, as well as fostering closer collaboration between the private sector and research institutions. Our focus is on space-based technologies that can support national priorities such as climate and sustainability, as well as domains such as aviation and maritime. Singapore is therefore investing in R&D to develop what we hope will prove to be disruptive technologies for small satellites, that can improve the performance of satellites while reducing cost.
7. At the same time, advances in satellite technologies are only useful if the data they produce has value, whether for scientific insights or beneficial applications. We are thus also investing in research into satellite data

exploitation, which we hope can help open the door to many scientific discoveries as well as new use cases.

Mr Chair,

8. Singapore remains committed to the objectives and purpose of COPUOS. We believe that small states and emerging space players can play a constructive role in promoting the peaceful uses of outer space. To this end, we thank Director Di Pippo for her dialogue session with the Vienna and Geneva Chapters of the Forum of Small States in February this year. We will continue to support efforts at the UN and elsewhere to promote an open, inclusive and rules-based approach to the responsible use of space by all. My delegation will give our full cooperation and support to your leadership of this Committee, and we look forward to forging stronger cooperation with partners in our region and beyond, to develop novel solutions for the challenges of tomorrow.

Thank you, Mr Chair.