

Agenda item 5: Ways and Means of Maintaining Outer Space for Peaceful purposes

Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates.

India is a party to all the major international treaties/regulations related to outer space, including Outer Space Treaty, the Rescue Agreement, the Liability Convention and the Registration Convention.

Mr. Chairman,

India implements a number of Transparency and Confidence Building Measures (TCBMs) - including collaboration with other space faring nations for exchange of best practices and data sharing for spaceflight safety, registration of space objects within the UN register, and prelaunch notifications.

Mr. Chairman,

India actively participates in Inter Agency Space Debris Coordination (IADC) activities related to space debris mitigation, as well as in IAA Space Debris Working Group and IAF Space Traffic Management Subcommittee activities.

Mr. Chairman,

India has been voluntarily adopting measures for space debris mitigation that are in accordance with UN and IADC recommended guidelines. These measures include passivation of upper stages, Launch COLLision Avoidance (COLA) assessments, Space Object Proximity Analyses for operational satellites, post mission disposal of GEO satellites to super-synchronous graveyard orbits, and end-of-life de-orbiting of LEO satellites/rocket stages to minimize their post mission presence in LEO. Continual efforts are underway to improve the compliance level with these mitigation guidelines. Recognizing that Space Situational Awareness (SSA) is an integral part of safe and sustainable operations, India has embarked into projects to set up space object observational facilities, namely radars and optical telescopes. NETRA project is envisaged to bring all SSA efforts in India under a common umbrella for better management and execution.

Mr. Chairman,

India is currently in the process of working out a mechanism to monitor and regulate space activities of the private sector in India through the recently established entity, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe).

In conclusion, Indian delegation wishes to convey that India is all possible measures to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes and willing to share her knowledge with other interested member states on the same

Thank you Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates.