

Honorable Madam Chair and participants!

Thanks for the granted opportunity to make the speech.

The activity of Committee of the United Nations on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has been developed throughout the time. Business and other activities in outer space have been expanded and become the factor positively influencing the world, the international community and our daily life. At the Committee's session held in 2013, the representative of Azerbaijan talked about Azerbaijan's space achievements and successful launch of the Azerbaijan's first satellite Azerspace-1. Since that time Azerbaijan has expanded its space activities. Nowadays our country has 3 satellites: Azerspace-1 and Azerspace 2 which are telecommunication satellites and earth observation satellite Azersky. The exploitation of these satellites was made possible through the close partnerships between Azerbaijan and other countries within the international community. Thus, we can once again see the importance of the international interaction, support and partnership for the development of outer space activities and overall space industry.

We can surely state that the national space programme adopted and declared by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mr. Ilham Aliyev in 2009 had the great impact on the development of outer space activities, business and space industry in our country. Under this programme, we got the opportunity to target our goals in space sector, increase our income from space industry and provide new opportunity to our people, in particular to the young generation in their pursuit of happiness.

This year on 27th April Azerbaijan Space Agency (Azercosmos) was established. As of today Azercosmos is the youngest Space Agency in the whole world. Although in 1992 Azerbaijan National Aerospace Agency and in 2009 our national space operator were established respectively. Thus from Azerbaijan's experience we will see transformation of the national space operator into the space agency. While maintaining achievements and advantages of the space operator in doing commercial business activities, this transformation intends to comprise and implement the space agency's activities of the social and governmental importance in the space sector, space activities. That way, space agency will definitely provide new opportunities for spreading and widening the space activity and business within our society.

Nowadays, the topics raised by Committee and its Legal Subcommittee are actual and essential for today, which is highly appreciated. It would be desirable to continue advocating widely these topics within our countries in order to guide and direct the energy of the young generation towards the reliable and intellectual usage and further exploration of the outer space.