



**Statement of the G-77 and China  
during the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations  
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,  
10-18 June 2026,  
delivered by H.E. Shambhu S. Kumaran,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of India**

**AGENDA ITEM 5: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS**

1. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I would like to thank Prof. Rafiq Akram of Morocco for a successful chairmanship of the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and congratulate you, Prof. Teodoro Valente, President of the Italian Space Agency, on your election as the Chair of the 69th Session. You can count on the Group for its full cooperation and support to you, Chair, and all members of the Bureau.

2. The Group further takes the opportunity to thank the Office for Outer Space Affairs, and the Secretariat for the preparations made for this session. The Group reiterates its support to the Office and its activities taking into account the needs of developing countries.

Mr. Chair,

3. Considering the time constraints, the G-77 and China wishes to make the following remarks which should be considered applicable to all agenda items and working groups:

- a. The Group reiterates its strict adherence to the principles governing the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space, including those in the Outer Space Treaty and as outlined in RES. GA.1962 (XVIII) and RES. GA.1884 (XVIII). The Group is of the view that all outer space activities including mega-constellations and their related operations, should fully respect the international law, including the UN Charter.
- b. The Group underscores the imperative of fully implementing the *Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the interest of all States taking into account the needs of developing countries* (UNGA A/RES/51/122). In this regard, it is crucial that developing countries are not left behind or unfairly disadvantaged by exploration, exploitation and peaceful uses of outer space. Consequently, space technology applications must translate into concrete benefits for developing countries, including transfer of technology on favorable terms and capacity-building.
- c. The sustainable use of outer space should place a special emphasis on capacity-building activities to bridge the huge **divide** between developed and developing countries in this domain and address the growing need to secure sufficient resources to this end.
- d. The Group emphasizes that the main principles of relevant United Nations treaties and the peaceful uses of outer space should drive our discussions on the “Long Term

Sustainability of Outer Space” as well as the “utilization of Space Resources”. The established principle of **non-appropriation** of outer space must be honoured and maintained.

4. The Group welcomes the ongoing consultations on the proposal to hold the United Nations Conference on Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space (**UNISPACE IV**) in 2027 and underscores that **UNISPACE IV** must be action-oriented and an opportunity to consolidate the interests of developing countries to ensure that the use and exploration of outer space is carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes for the benefit of all countries, regardless of their degree of scientific and economic development and in accordance with the Outer Space Treaty and applicable international law. In this regard, the Group stresses the need to incorporate the interests of developing countries in the outcome of the planned UNISPACE IV as reflected in the objectives and scope identified in Annex 2 of the report of COPUOS 68<sup>th</sup> session on this matter, including on “*International Cooperation and Space for Development*” which is an important output of the planned Conference that addresses the interests of developing countries.

5. The Group noted with appreciation the continued work of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultations (ATLAC). The Group requests to reintroduce in the workplan of the Action Team and its work streams the topic of “International cooperation and capacity building” including sharing of scientific findings and knowledge particularly for the interests of developing countries.

6. The Group notes the discussions on the proposal on the legal and policy aspects of space traffic, and takes into account the interests of developing countries therein. The Group underscores that the deployment of mega constellations, if not carried out sustainably and equitably, pose a risk of congestion of Low Earth Orbit (LEO), which would be a significant disadvantage in the use and exploration of space by developing countries. Therefore, the Group reiterates that the principle of equitable access to outer space, and in particular in the LEO, needs to be observed more than ever, and calls for practical and more effective measures to ensure its implementation and responsibility of all space actors as per Art. 6 of the Outer Space Treaty.

7. The Group urges States to refrain from promulgating, adopting and applying any unilateral economic, financial and trade measures and related actions contrary to international law and the UN Charter, mindful that they hamper or impede access to space and space activities, particularly, in developing countries.

8. The Group joins other calls to further support UNOOSA amid the current financial constraints. The Group stresses that the current situation should not impact the principle of equitable geographical representation in the Secretariat nor the capacity building activities for the interest of developing countries. The Group requests that UNOOSA continue, as per its mandate, to promote the peaceful uses of outer space for sustainable development, advance international cooperation, and strengthen the capacity of developing countries in utilizing space applications.

9. Finally, the Group looks forward to the adoption of a consensus report of this session that avoids matters exceeding the mandate of COPUOS.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.



**Statement of the G-77 and China  
during the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations  
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delivered by H.E. Kennedy Reyes,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of El Salvador**

**AGENDA ITEM 6: WAYS AND MEANS OF MAINTAINING OUTER SPACE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.**

1. The Group wants to underscore its firm conviction that the use and exploration of outer space shall be carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes, for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and in conformity with applicable international law.

2. The Group reiterates that COPUOS, with its two Subcommittees, is the primary UN forum to discuss comprehensively all matters related to the peaceful uses of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies. Accordingly, the Group believes that the international legal framework should be developed in a manner that addresses the concerns of all States and that ensures the space development and activities of developing countries.

Mr. Chair,

3. The Group welcomes the application submitted by Uganda to join the membership of the Committee. The steady growth of COPUOS in recent years is a clear sign of the international recognition of the unique role of COPUOS as the UN forum dedicated to discussing and promoting the peaceful uses of outer space. It is important that more Member States of the United Nations be welcomed as this contributes to the promotion of the peaceful uses of outer space.

5. The Group reiterates that all outer space activities and any endeavor to **explore and utilize** outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies must adhere to the principles and objectives of international law, United Nations treaties, particularly the Outer Space Treaty.

6. The Group believes that the **sustainability** of outer space activities in the short, medium and long term requires the international community to ensure that no weapons are ever placed or used there, in accordance with Art. IV of the Outer Space Treaty.

7. The Group reaffirms the importance of preventing an arms race in outer space and placement of weapons of any kind in outer space and calls upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the peaceful use of outer space to prevent an arms race there and to refrain from placement of weapons of any kind in outer space and any other actions contrary to that objective.

8. In this regard, the Group notes that transparency and confidence building measures could play a useful role. The Group believes that the long-term sustainability of outer space activities requires the commitment of all Member States to use outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Thank you Mr. Chair.



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delivered by H.E Angela Vigliotta,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Dominican Republic**

**AGENDA ITEM 7: REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC SUBCOMMITTEE  
AGENDA ITEM 8: REPORT OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. Chair,

1. The Group of 77 and China takes note of the reports of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee, and expresses its appreciation to the Chairs of both Subcommittees, the Secretariat, and the Office for Outer Space Affairs for their continued efforts under challenging circumstances.
2. At the same time, the Group wishes to recall the importance of having a thorough reflection of the particular needs, priorities and circumstances of developing countries in the reports of the Committee. For the Group, this is not a merely drafting or procedural matter, it relates directly to the core mandate of COPUOS and its Subcommittees, as established by the General Assembly and consistently reaffirmed in the annual resolution on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, most recently A/RES/80/76.
3. The Group recalls that COPUOS remains the primary Committee of the General Assembly dealing exclusively with international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. Its mandate, and that of its two Subcommittees, is not limited to the technical or legal management of space activities in the abstract, but includes strengthening the international legal regime governing outer space, expanding international cooperation, and maximizing the benefits of space science and technology and their applications for all countries. This mandate is particularly relevant for developing countries, which continue to face structural, financial, technological and capacity-related constraints in accessing and benefiting from outer space activities.
4. The Group further recalls General Assembly resolution A/RES/76/3, that consolidated space as a driver of sustainable development, and looks forward to reflecting elements of this resolution in the COPUOS report, and reaffirms that the benefits derived from outer space exploration and use should be available to all nations, irrespective of their level of development.
5. The Group also recalls General Assembly resolution A/RES/51/122, which adopted the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries. This Declaration remains a central normative reference for the work of the Committee and its Subcommittees.

6. By adopting the subcommittees' report, the Group underlines that omissions or insufficient references of the development agenda and the priorities of the developing countries in the reports of the Subcommittees cannot, and shall not, be interpreted as altering, narrowing or prejudicing the mandates of COPUOS or its Subcommittees as established by the UN General Assembly in its resolutions including most recently resolution A/RES/80/76. Nor can such omissions affect the principle of international cooperation, or the obligation to take particular account of the needs of developing countries in the exploration and use of outer space.

7. The Group therefore requests that future reports of the Committee and its Subcommittees ensure a balanced, comprehensive and mandate-consistent reflection of the development dimension of outer space activities, including the specific needs and priorities of developing countries.

8. The Group reiterates its readiness to engage constructively with all delegations to ensure that the work of COPUOS and its Subcommittees remains fully aligned with the Charter of the United Nations, the Outer Space Treaty, the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and the 1996 Declaration on International Cooperation, in a manner that promotes the peaceful, equitable and sustainable use of outer space for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, in particular developing countries.

Thank you Mr. Chair.



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First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of India**

**AGENDA ITEM 9: SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**

1. The Group underscores its firm conviction that the use and exploration of the outer space shall be carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes, with the view to realizing a shared vision for the future, for the benefit and in the interests of all countries.
2. The Group reiterates the principles included in the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of all States, taking in Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries, that should govern activities in the space:
  - a. universal and equal access to outer space for all countries without discrimination, regardless of their level of scientific, technical and economic development;
  - b. the equitable and rational use of the outer space for the benefit and in the interests of all humankind;
  - c. the principle of non-appropriation of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, by any means,
  - d. international cooperation in the development of space activities.
3. The Group further reiterates the need to use this opportunity to address current challenges and fully consolidate aspirations of developing countries on peaceful uses of outer space including strengthening international cooperation, availing equitable access and sharing the benefits of outer space activities for all humankind, particularly for the interest of developing countries, including through providing additional support for space sciences and applications.
4. While several Member States of this Group have achieved important milestones in space activities, others are starting to develop their own space programmes and policies. This fact is a recognition of the potential, importance and benefit of space activities. The Group also considers it crucial that developing countries are not left behind or are unfairly treated in space exploration efforts. In this connection, it is imperative to intensify the efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived from outer space activities with a view to promoting the contribution of peaceful uses of outer space to socio-economic development.
5. In line with the enhancement of international cooperation in outer space activities, it is vital to promote a wider participation of developing countries through active and sustained assistance by advanced space faring nations and the Office of Outer Space Affairs free from conditionalities.

6. To this end, capacity building, technical assistance and transfer of technology are key factors in the expansion of the abilities of those working in the field, allowing them to gain expertise and knowledge from more advanced spacefaring nations.

7. The Group is of the view that space technology applications must translate into concrete benefits for developing countries. In order to achieve this goal, transfer of technology on favorable terms for developing countries, as well as associated capacity-building are of vital importance. In this vein, the Group strongly encourages States to strengthen international, multilateral, regional and bilateral cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, including by addressing challenges and obstacles, in particular those that hinder such cooperation, particularly, in developing countries. The Group also encourages the Secretariat to further its efforts in this regard as per the General Assembly resolution 80/76.

8. In this context, the Group notes with appreciation the initiative advanced by several Member States entitled “*Space for Development: International Cooperation and Implementing Benefit-sharing in Space Activities*”, which seeks to strengthen international cooperation and give practical effect to the principle that the exploration and use of outer space shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, particularly developing countries. The Group regards this initiative as a constructive and timely contribution to the implementation of the Committee mandate as well as relevant international instruments on international cooperation in space activities, particularly as it seeks, through an inclusive, and Member State-driven process, to identify existing gaps, evolving needs and practical voluntary cooperative measures to ensure that developing countries are not left behind in accessing, contributing to and benefiting from space activities.

Mr. Chair,

9. The Group reiterates its commitment to the “Space2030” Agenda which is intended to be a “forward looking strategy for reaffirming and strengthening the contribution of space activities and space tools to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement, addressing long-term sustainable development concerns of humankind<sup>1</sup>.” In this regard, the Group emphasizes, once more, the need for capacity building to ensure that the required technical expertise is made available to Member States, especially developing countries, to support their implementation of the “Space2030” Agenda.

10. The Group takes note of the mid-term review of “Space2030” Agenda and looks forward to a comprehensive and proactive review process. The Group also reiterates the need to use this opportunity to address current challenges and further consolidate aspirations of developing countries on peaceful uses of outer space including strengthening international cooperation, availing equal access and benefit sharing, providing additional support for space sciences and applications for developing countries.

Thank you Mr. Chair.

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<sup>1</sup> A/RES/76/3 para. 6.



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**AGENDA ITEM 10: SPIN-OFF BENEFITS OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY: REVIEW OF CURRENT STATUS.**

1. The Group considers it crucial that developing countries are not left behind or unfairly disadvantaged by exploration, exploitation and peaceful uses of outer space. The Group is of the view that space technology applications must translate into concrete benefits for developing countries.
2. In order to achieve this goal, transfer of technology on favorable terms for developing countries, as well as associated capacity-building are of vital importance. In this vein, the Group strongly encourages States to strengthen international, multilateral, regional and bilateral cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, including by addressing challenges and obstacles that hinder such cooperation, particularly, in developing countries.
3. The Group also underscores the importance of appropriate funding, as well as mobilization of extrabudgetary resources to enable UNOOSA to provide sufficient support for developing countries, according to their needs and priorities, including through the Office's capacity building Programmes and technical assistance.

Thank you Mr. Chair.



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**AGENDA ITEM 14: FUTURE ROLE AND METHOD OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.**

1. The Group reiterates that COPUOS, with its two Subcommittees, is the primary **UN forum** to discuss comprehensively all matters related to the peaceful uses of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies.
2. The Group of 77 and China stands ready to engage constructively with the Secretariat and Member States in addressing the implications of the current liquidity crisis. In this regard, the Group would appreciate to continue receiving further regular information on the budgetary situation of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, as well as on possible efficiencies already achieved or envisaged by the Secretariat. The Group reiterates, however, that any measures undertaken to address the liquidity situation must not adversely affect the activities or programmes benefiting developing countries.
3. In this context, the Group is prepared to consider practical and reasonable options, to improve the organization and the work of the Committee and Subcommittees. At the same time, the Group underscores that all its core positions must continue to be duly reflected in the final reports of the Committee and its Subcommittees, including positions related to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Space Agenda 2030.
4. The Group therefore reiterates its request to retain and consolidate the relevant agenda items related to capacity building and Space for sustainable development, as well as similar agenda items in the Committee and the two Subcommittees. The development dimension remains the core objective of the Group and a cornerstone of the mandate of this Office. Any discussion on the future role, priorities, or methods of work of the Committee and its Subcommittees should remain consistent with the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations General Assembly.
5. In this regard, the Group recalls that the annual resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, including most recently resolution A/RES/80/76, constitute the mandate for the work of this august body. The Group underscores the centrality of international cooperation as a guiding principle of the Committee's work, to be pursued with due consideration for the interests and needs of developing countries.
6. The Group further emphasizes the need to seize this opportunity to address current challenges and to consolidate and to advance the aspirations of developing countries regarding

the peaceful uses of outer space. This includes strengthening international cooperation, equitable access, and promoting the benefits of space activities for all humankind, in particular through enhanced support for space science and applications in developing countries.

Mr. Chair,

7. The Group recommends that there should be greater interaction between the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee in order to promote advancements in space law, so that it would be aligned with the major scientific and technical advances in space activities.

8. The Group is of the view that such coordination and synergies between the two Subcommittees can also promote greater understanding, acceptance and further implementation of the existing United Nations legal instruments.

9. The Group is of the view that the discussions of this Subcommittee should not lead to any measures, including norms, guidelines and standards that would limit or disadvantage the access of developing and emerging space-faring countries to outer space. Accordingly, the Group believes that the international legal framework should be developed in a manner that addresses the concerns of all States.

10. Finally, for the G-77 and China it is important to reach consensus on the reports of the Committee and its Sub-Committees in order to make progress on issues related to the peaceful uses of outer space conducive to our collective advantage, thus avoiding politicization and prolongation of discussions that exceed the mandate of COPUOS.

Thank you Chair.



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delivered by H.E Angelina Bernas,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Philippines**

**AGENDA ITEM 16: “SPACE2030” AGENDA.**

1. The Group of 77 and China underscores the continued relevance of the SDGs, the "Space2030" Agenda and its Implementation Plan.
2. It is important to highlight that international cooperation in the development of space activities is a paramount principle, especially for those referred to in the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the benefit and in the interest of all Member States taking in particular account the needs of developing countries.
3. The sustainable use of outer space should place a special emphasis on capacity-building activities and technical assistance programmes to bridge the huge divide between developed and developing countries in this domain and address the growing need to secure sufficient resources to this end.
4. The Group recalls the mid-term review of “Space2030” Agenda and takes note that the Review so far was not conclusive and requests that the Review be extended with the view to ensure collection of comprehensive and conclusive views on the Review of Agenda 2030.
5. The Group further reiterates the need to use this opportunity to address current challenges and fully consolidate aspirations of developing countries on peaceful uses of outer space including strengthening international cooperation, availing equal access and benefit sharing, providing additional support for space sciences and applications for developing countries.
6. The Group recognizes the central role of UNOOSA in advocating the benefits of space science and technology for sustainable development and in promoting international cooperation in the pursuance of the “Space 2030 Agenda”. We look forward to working closely with UNOOSA in promoting the peaceful uses of outer space for sustainable development, including in meeting the “Space 2030 Agenda” advancing international cooperation, strengthening the capacity of developing countries in utilizing space applications, and promote inclusivity and gender equality, gender balance and empowerment of women, as applicable, in the space sector.
7. The Group also takes positive note of the Secretariat’s recent approach aimed at developing practical tools and engaging constructively with Member States to support the proper and effective implementation of the Space2030 Agenda. The Group commends these efforts and encourages the Secretariat to continue this work in a transparent, inclusive and

Member State-driven manner, through close consultations with all Member States, and particularly with the Group of 77 and China, in order to ensure that such tools duly reflect the development dimension of the Agenda, the priorities and needs of developing countries, and the agreed mandate of COPUOS and its Subcommittees.

Mr. Chair,

8. It is imperative to intensify the efforts to extend to all Member States the benefits derived from outer space activities with a view to promoting the contribution of peaceful uses of outer space to socio-economic development, including the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals bearing in mind the outcome of the UNISPACE +50 process such as the UNGA resolution 73/6 and the “Space2030” Agenda.

Thank you Chair.