

**Statement by the Delegation of Pakistan on  
Agenda Item 51: International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of  
Outer Space (Fourth Committee)**

As a member of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) since 1973, Pakistan adheres to the principles of exploration and use of outer space for the benefit of all humanity: for peace, security and development.

2. Pakistan is committed to: (i) universal access to outer space on an equal and non-discriminatory basis, irrespective of States' level of scientific, technical and economic development; (ii) non-appropriation of outer space by claim of sovereignty, use, appropriation, occupation of other means; and (iii) its exclusive use for peaceful purposes as a common heritage of humankind.

3. To achieve Sustainable Development Goals, bridging the wide technological gap between states is of vital importance. It will send out a strong message that developing nations have an equitable right in the exploration, access and use of outer space for peaceful purposes without any discrimination. We believe that COPUOS has a critical role to play in assisting developing countries in the peaceful uses of outer space for their socio-economic development.

4. It is an ideal platform for the promotion of technical assistance and technology transfer to developing countries in space-related activities, particularly in the areas of agriculture, health, water management, meteorology, climate change mitigation, health, humanitarian assistance, disaster management, satellite navigation and communication.

5. As a space faring nation, Pakistan understands the importance of utilizing space-based assets for achieving the objectives of sustainable development goals. Pakistan has actively contributed to the deliberations on the development of space 2030 agenda at UNCOUOS.

6. We recognize the importance of international cooperation in advance technological developments and ensures primary rule of law for maintaining peace in outer space activities.

7. Pakistan is a member of International Astronautical Federation (IAF), Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) and actively takes part in their activities.

8. Pakistan, as a State party to all five core multilateral treaties on out space, carries out all its outer space activities in a peaceful, transparent and safe manner in accordance with the relevant international norms, with the ultimate objective of enhancing the well-being of humankind.

9. Moreover, space technology has constituted an essential part of the government strategy for peaceful development which supports in modernization and advancement of science and technology, social-economic development particularly in the achievement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

10. Giving the utmost significance to outer space as a common heritage of humankind, Pakistan aspires that it must be explored and used for peaceful purposes in accordance with the principles set out in relevant international laws, in particular the “1967 Outer Space Treaty”.

11. The placement of weapons in outer space may instigate unpredictable consequences for international security and peace. Therefore, Pakistan remains consistent in opposing the weaponization, militarization of outer space as well as development, testing and development of anti-satellite systems.

12. The existing legal regimes such as 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty, the 1967 Outer Space Treaty and the 1979 Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies have played a constructive role in the peaceful uses of outer space and prohibiting the development of weapons of mass destruction and carrying out military activities.

13. However, the prevailing legal regime alone does not guarantee non weaponization of outer space. It thus requires collective efforts for long term sustainability of outer space.

14. We acknowledge the initiatives and mechanisms undertaken by UNCOPUOS for increasing transparency and confidence building measures among the Member States for maintaining sustainability, global peace and security under the ambit of international space laws.

15. Pakistan also appreciates the role of COPUOS in developing the global legal regime of outer space and the framework for space governance. The definition and delimitation of outer space is one of the important agenda items before the Committee. Pakistan is of the view that a legally binding consensus based international framework is required. To this end, Pakistan continues its constructive engagement to evolve consensus.

\*\*\*\*\*