



Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Employment of Finland

Finland's Statement in the 62nd session of the Technical and Scientific Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Agenda Item 3 – General exchange of views

Thank you, Madam Chair, good afternoon.

First, I would like to thank you, Chair, for chairing this 62nd session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. I would also like to thank Director Aarti Holla-Maini and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs for the continuous work and excellent organization of this meeting.

We welcome Latvia and Djibouti as the new States members of the Committee.

Finland aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union, and would like to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

International cooperation is central to the work of COPUOS and its subcommittees. The Russian Federation's unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine continues to severely hurt our common efforts in this regard. We reiterate our full solidarity with Ukraine as well as our firm support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We recognize the importance of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee as an indispensable forum for the exchange of views on scientific and technical aspects of outer space activities, and for fostering international cooperation in this regard.

Madam Chair,

International cooperation is a cornerstone of Finnish space activities. In 2025 Finland celebrates its thirtieth year of membership in the European Space Agency (ESA). The Finnish industry and research organizations participate actively in various ESA programmes. In this framework, the EU Space Programme and other multilateral and bilateral collaborations continue to have an important role in the Finnish space policy.

To strengthen our participation in international cooperation in the space arena, Finland signed the Artemis Accords this January. By utilizing also the experience to be gained under the Artemis Accords, Finland will continue to support the work of COPUOS and its subcommittees with the aim of enhancing multilateral cooperation and governance of space activities on celestial bodies.

Madam Chair,

Small satellite activities are a topic of particular interest to Finland. The Finnish national registry of space objects currently contains 25 satellites that are still in orbit. All of them have been launched since 2017 when Finland became a space-faring nation. These satellites include both scientific and commercial missions.

Finland has recently released its updated space strategy with the aim of strengthening national capabilities and further developing the Finnish space industry. In the strategy Finland promotes the efficient utilization of space solutions in various fields, including combatting global issues such as climate change. Satellite-based earth observation is a key strength of the Finnish space industry. The data provided by EO satellites is important for monitoring both long-term environmental changes and ongoing natural disasters globally, to allow for a targeted response.

As an increasingly important part of space safety and sustainability, Finland considers the development of a global Space Traffic Management regime essential, with the aim of creating common international rules that take into consideration rapid changes in the space sector. With this in mind we would welcome UNISPACE IV in 2027 as a possibility to push forward the intentions on having frameworks to guide space traffic on the global level.

Space situational awareness capacity is vital in supporting Space Traffic Management, and Finland recently began establishing a national Space Situational Awareness Center in order to further develop our capacity in this area, as part of the EU SST Consortium.

The Ministry of Economic and Affairs and Employment is the responsible ministry for Finland's space policy. Within this role, the Ministry signed the Zero Debris Charter in January. This non-legally binding charter initiated by ESA aims at mitigating the amount of space debris and invites different entities from the global space community to join. We wish to be part of a community that is committed to finding ways to stop generating space debris and making sure the orbital environment remains usable for future generations as well.

Finally Madam Chair,

Finland considers that COPUOS is the right multilateral forum to address topics relevant to safe and sustainable space activities. In this context, we support continued discussion over the issue relating to Dark and Quiet Skies for Science and Society.

I wish everyone an interesting and fruitful session. Thank you Madam Chair.