

**Zero DRAFT MIKTA Joint Statement****69th COPUOS Session**

Agenda item 14: Future role and method of work of the Committee

Chair,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of MIKTA - a cross-regional partnership comprising Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Türkiye and Australia.

In this era of rapidly expanding outer space activity – characterised by increasing scale, scope, and diversity of actors, MIKTA countries consider the deepening of international cooperation in space governance both timely and essential. Grounded in our shared commitment to multilateralism, sustainable development, and the upholding international law, rules and principles, especially those embodied in space law, MIKTA looks forward to engaging constructively in COPUOS to advance practical cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, based on the principles of non-appropriation, non-discrimination, and equal access.

Chair,

As we approach the 60th anniversary of the Outer Space Treaty next year, we reaffirm the importance of the work and mandate of COPUOS. The Committee's deliberations on critical issues—such as space resources, space traffic, information sharing, space debris, geostationary orbits, small satellite activities and discussions towards a potential international lunar mechanism—are fundamental not only to addressing current challenges, but also to ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space and that space activities are conducted for the benefit of all humankind. We appreciate the contributions of UNOOSA and its Director, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, in facilitating and supporting this important work.

MIKTA countries reaffirm that the peaceful use of outer space must remain transparent and firmly grounded in international law, particularly the Outer Space Treaty. We regard COPUOS as a vital platform for the development of normative and

legal frameworks that ensure outer space activities are conducted exclusively for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all humanity.

Chair,

In light of the ongoing UN liquidity crisis, the UN80 reform process, and new challenges in the space field, MIKTA underscores the need for pragmatic, implementable measures which empower a more effective COPUOS while ensuring its capacity-building and technical assistance efforts, particularly for developing countries are preserved and strengthened. As the scale, scope, diversity of outer space activities, and actors continue to expand, MIKTA supports efforts of Mr. Prakash Chauhan (India) as Chair of the Working Group of the Whole to advance practical and implementable solutions to enhance the work of the Committee and its subcommittees. MIKTA anticipates that the proposal to hold UNISPACE-IV in 2027 delivers concrete outcomes and strengthens cooperation on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

MIKTA supports efforts that promote space education, engage youth, and enhance the meaningful participation of women in the space sector such as the Space4Youth and Space4Women initiative. By investing in education, inclusion, and opportunity, we contribute to a more sustainable and resilient space future.

Chair,

MIKTA countries are already facing unprecedented challenges posed by climate change and recognise the vital role of accessible space technologies—particularly Earth observation—in disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation, and environmental monitoring, including for natural disasters such as earthquakes and wildfires. MIKTA further views that these capabilities and the capacity of countries to utilize such technologies are essential to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals.

In this regard, Australia was proud to host the seventy-sixth International Astronautical Congress ‘Sustainable Space: Resilient Earth’ in Sydney in 2025 and passes the baton to Türkiye as host of the seventy-seventh International Astronautical Congress ‘The World Needs More Space’ in Antalya from 5 to 9 October 2026.

Chair,

MIKTA stands ready to work with all partners to strengthen the Committee's work and advance our common aspiration: a space environment that remains open, safe, sustainable and beneficial to all humankind.

Thank you.
