

Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

Thematic Debate of the First Committee of the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly

Cluster: Outer Space (Disarmament Aspect)

New York, October 2022

Mr. Chairman,

1. Indonesia aligns itself with statement delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and ASEAN.
2. It is our long-standing position that outer space and other celestial bodies are the common heritage of mankind.
3. They shall only be used, explored and utilized for peaceful purposes only and for the benefit and interest of all nations.
4. With the increased threat of weaponization and militarization of outer space, prevention of arms race in outer space continues to assume greater urgency.
5. In that regards, we would like to highlight to three salient points.
6. **FIRST**, threats to outer space should be addressed in a comprehensive manner.
7. All states should exert efforts aiming both at prevention militarization and weaponization of outer space.
8. This includes the deployment of space and earth-based capabilities against the peaceful use of outer space.
9. While recognizing the significance of existing international regimes on outer space, including the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, they are inadequate to deter militarization and weaponization of outer space.

10. In this regard, there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and support its effectiveness.
11. Therefore, Indonesia reiterates its call for the immediate negotiation and conclusion of a legally binding international instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects or PAROS in the Conference on Disarmament.
12. The conclusion of this instrument should contribute to the prevention of the increasing risks and threats of weaponization in outer space.
13. **SECOND**, Indonesia believes that the development of norms, rules and responsible behavior should serve as building blocks towards preventions of arms race.
14. The development of rules, norms and principles of responsible behavior shall be accorded as complimentary measure in the direction of the potential formulation of a legally binding instrument on PAROS.
15. **THIRD**, Indonesia recognizes the importance of greater transparency and confidence-building measures.
16. This includes data sharing and accurate information in outer space activities
17. Transparency and confidence building measures could facilitate trust, lessen misunderstandings and prevent conflicts.
18. To a certain extent, they have already played active roles in arms control and disarmament.
19. However, they have their own limitations, particularly because they are not legally binding.
20. In this regard, any measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space cannot replace efforts towards the establishment of a multilateral agreement or agreements on PAROS.

Mr. Chairman,

21. In conclusion, Indonesia stands ready to constructively engage in efforts in maintaining outer space as a peaceful, safe, stable, secure and sustainable environment.

I thank you.