Mr. Chair,

We would like to associate our delegation with the statements delivered by the delegation of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the delegation of Tunisia on behalf of the Arab Group.

Egypt definitely believes that it is a given that outer space is equally owned by humankind, which means that outer space is a common asset for humanity as a whole. Accordingly, all sorts of outer space activities have to be addressed and managed under the auspices of the United Nations in order to be inclusive, universal, and consensual. In this view, indeed the Conference on Disarmament (CD) is the most appropriate and relevant international forum.

We reiterate that any regulation of outer space should aim at improving the outer space environment for the use of all states and should not, in any way, aim to limit the full utilization of outer space activities, applications, and explorations by any other state. In fact, this is exactly the very essence of the “Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies” of 1967.

We also reaffirm that outer space must remain free of any potential conflict, and should be recognized as a non-conflict zone.
Therefore, we believe that weaponization of outer space for any purpose – whether offensive or defensive by any state – must be prevented globally. This is precisely why Egypt and Sri Lanka table their traditional resolution titled “Prevention of Arms Race in the Outer Space” within the General Assembly First Committee on annual basis for more than two decades until now. Indeed this year, we seek the traditional support of the international community to this vital resolution.

Mr. Chair,

Egypt, as an emerging spacefaring nation and a member of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), urges the international community to make relevant technical assistance and technological exchange available and fully accessible to all countries of the world irrespective to their scientific and economic level of advancement.

In conclusion, Egypt works in full collaboration with the relevant bodies dealing with Outer Space activities in the African Union and the League of Arab States in order to achieve the aforementioned objectives in terms of securing outer space and utilizing it for peaceful purposes.

I do thank you