



**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE**

**OEWG on Reducing Space Threats Through Norms, Rules, and Principles of  
Responsible Behaviours (Topic 1)**

**Geneva, 30 January-3 February 2023**

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

We would like to express our gratitude to you for your unwavering efforts. We assure you of our delegation's support in your endeavors.

We reiterate that Türkiye attaches particular importance to protecting the right of unrestricted access to and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. Türkiye co-sponsored the UNGA resolutions; “Reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours” and “Destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missile testing”.

We are of the view that OEWG will benefit from increased cooperation with the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. We welcome the convening of joint panels by the First and Fourth Committees on space safety and sustainability last October.

We also thank you and your team for preparing a comprehensive paper containing possible elements on items 6(a) and 6(b), which we are still evaluating.

Mr. Chair,

Regarding our views on the first topic, the Outer Space Treaty established the basic legal framework for outer space. Clearly, it stated that outer space is not subject to national appropriation or solely pursuing national interests, and activities in outer space must be for the benefit and welfare of all countries.

The Registration Convention of 1975 requires states to register their space objects with the United Nations. In this regard, non-transparent military space projects should be avoided in outer space.

UN General Assembly's resolutions, such as “Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries” in 1997, creates norms of soft law, which are guiding the States.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.