

The Republic of Korea's Working Paper for the 3rd Meeting of the UN Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Space Threats

“Responsible behaviour” implies that all States must abide by international norms and fulfill them in good faith, bearing in mind the State’s responsibility in order to ensure the safety, security and long-term sustainability of outer space activities as well as to prevent an arms race in outer space.

The Republic of Korea views that key features and examples of responsible behaviour include:

- Fully respecting the existing international law, including, inter alia, the Charter of the United Nations, the Outer Space Treaty and other commitments, as well as the voluntary guidelines on activities in Outer Space, including those adopted by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
- Contributing to the strengthening of transparency and confidence-building measures, especially those recommended in the 2013 report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities
- Contributing to the greater awareness in relation to the safe and secure operation and control of space objects
- Not conducting destructive, direct-ascent anti-satellite missile testing
- Operating space objects with due regard to the corresponding interests of all other States in outer space
- Contributing to the mitigation of space debris

As a means to encourage the implementation of the above-mentioned norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour, the Republic of Korea proposes that the **Open-Ended Working Group further considers developing a voluntary pre-activity notification mechanism**. Possible details of such a mechanism include:

- Communicating in advance or immediately informing of any planned, scheduled or predicted activities

Note. Activities subject to this mechanism can include the launch of space vehicles and other ambiguous activities that may result in a risk to the safety of the space objects of other States

- Designating the Point of Contact(PoC) to facilitate the notification process

Note. States may consider using an existing mechanism or agree upon a new mechanism to facilitate information sharing, such as a dedicated website

- Providing an annual report containing more information, including but not limited to the registration of space objects and newly introduced laws and policies in relation to outer space

The ROK reaffirms its commitment to the existing international law as well as the norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour. The ROK believes these voluntary norms, rules and principles can either complement or contribute to implementing, clarifying and interpreting the existing law. This will prevent miscommunication, misunderstanding and miscalculation and reduce space threats.

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