

Fifty-eighth Session of COPUOS

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Agenda Item 4 General exchange of views

Statement by Ms Fruzsina TARI, Head of the Hungarian Delegation, Head of the Hungarian Space Office

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

First of all, please allow me, Distinguished Delegates to congratulate and express my best wishes to you, Mr. Chairman of this Committee and also to the 1st and 2nd Vice-Chairs and I wish you all success in your work.

Our delegation warmly welcomes new applications to the COPUOS with this years rather extended number. The increasing number of members, clearly demonstrates the importance of the work of the Committee and its Subcommittees. We sincerely hope that the Committee and its subcommittees with the continuously increasing number of member states will keep the cooperative, peaceful and constructive spirit of the discussions.

Please allow me to point out our prouidity and congratulate to Mr. Előd Both, who could chair the STSC during the last two years as a first Hungarian in such a position. We are convinced that his work was important to support the space community within the UN.

Last, but not least I take the opportunity to congratulate to the Director of the OOSA and for her staff for the preparation of this session. Their work contributes significantly to the progress of the matters related to the agenda items of this session.

Distinguished Delegates,

Now I give a brief review of space activities in Hungary, as the last year was very exciting and with charged with successes.

First of all, let me emphasize that in course of this year, presumably in October 2015, Hungary will become full member of the European Space Agency. The ratification procedure lasts still, after we have signed the Accession Agreement to the ESA Convention on 24 February 2015. It took place in Budapest surrounding with a signing ceremony and professionals' presentations. To spread the most extent possible the importance of space technology and our future membership in ESA, we have invited 150 guests from the government, the professionals and the media.

Our full membership in ESA means also the end of a 12 years period of cooperation with ESA within the PECS program. We can inform the distinguesed Delegates that 125 contracts has been

concluded by ESA and the Hungarian participants in the program, both industrials and researchers.

Distinguished Delegates,

We also celebrated the 35th anniversary of the first human space flight of Hungary. Hungary entered the ranks of spacefaring countries on 26 May 1980. Bertalan Farkas, the first Hungarian cosmonaut and 97th human in outer space was the guest of honour of the event. We made a first half of the day for protocol and media event and then a scientific conference on all the scientific program of the first Hungarian cosmonaut. The event hosted all together 8 astronauts and cosmonauts from all over the world.

During the scientific conference, presentations were given on the results of scientific experiments prepared for the first space flight and continued up to nowadays. Major experiment was the Pille dozimeter that has been several times upgraded and is currently on the board of ISS as a permanent service equipment. It is used also for space walk to measure the received dosis by the astronaut under his / her scafander. Beside this experiment, more medical and pschological experiments and other experiments in microgravity environment, earth observation trials enhanced the development of a great scientific community.

Distinguished Delegates,

Hungary has contributed to more elements of the Rosetta mission. Both to the orbiter and to the lander Hungarian developments were at stake.

Regarding the Orbiter, the Hungarian Academy of Science via its Wigner Research Centre for Physics participated in the Rosetta Plasma Consortium and they are making continuous measurements until the end of the mission.

Regarding the lander Philae, the Hungarian contribution is even higher as in the Rosetta Lander Magnetometer and Plasma Monitor, so called ROMAP instrument, István Apáthy was one of the two principal investigator, while he is a senior researcher of the Hungarian Academy of Science, in the Center for Energy Research. Within the Surface Electrical Sounding and Acoustic Monitoring Experiments, also called SESAME also contains major Hungarian development within one of the three sensors of it. The Dust Impact Monitor has been already switched on during the landing and made the first scientific sciecle.

Beside the scientific instruments, Hungarian platform elements are also developed for Rosetta lander. The SGF LLC and the Wigner Research Centre for Physics have jointly developed the central on-board computer of Philae.

The Budapest University of Technology and Economics provided with energy supply system both the orbiter and the lander. All Hungarian involvements in the Rosetta mission performed properly.

Distinguished Delegates,

After we have announced in 2012 to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee that during the session of that Subcommittee the first Hungarian satellite was launched, now I can confirm that Masat-1 has completed its mission after almost three years, exactly 1061 days lifetime in space. Although the MASAT-1 satellite itself burned in the atmosphere, it was functioning properly until the end of its life cycle. On 10 January 2015, it was eliminated by its return to the atmosphere. Masat-1 mission was planned from the beginning with an approach that at the end of the lifetime of the satellite it should return to the atmosphere. As such, it did not become space debris. This shows that space debris mitigation is possible even for small or very small size satellites, upon careful preparation of the mission and right selection of the orbit. Hungary welcomes and continuously supports the efforts by preparing the “**Guidance on Space Object Registration and Frequency Management for Small and Very Small Satellites**”. This guidance points out some major elements which helps on a unified registration of the space objects in the range of small and very small satellites and provides a definition on such missions that evaluates the interpretation of this category.

Finally, please let me inform you, that a group of students from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics and the Eötvös Lóránt Science University had the opportunity to participate in the REXUS 17 mission. In the sounding rocket mission Sweden enabled the Hungarian participation in the framework of PECS in ESA. The mission was not only successful with measuring radiation in the near-Earth region, but it was during the last 10 years biggest geomagnetic storm. The exceptional results lead the group to continue to research space weather and its effects on Earth. The results maybe important for civil aviation and other domains.

Thank you for your attention.

Thank you Mr. Chairman