

**FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND
INNOVATION**

**PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STATEMENT
AGENDA ITEM 6: “USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO ENHANCE RESILIENCE AND PROMOTE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”
31 AUGUST 2022 | 11 AM - 12 PM BANGKOK TIME**

to be delivered by

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Mister Chair,

Allow me at the outset to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your assumption of the Chairmanship of this Committee. We are assured that under your leadership and guidance, this Committee will accomplish substantive work at the current session.

Mister Chairman, Excellencies and distinguished delegates,

The Philippines attaches great importance to the utilization of digital technologies and geospatial information systems to enhance disaster resilience and promote sustainable development.

As a country situated along the Typhoon Belt and Pacific Ring of Fire, with many of our communities heavily affected by natural hazards every year, the Philippines has lessons to share on the utilization of space-based data and technologies for hazard mapping and disaster risk management.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also brought further to light the increasing significance of geospatial information systems. The Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) and the Department of Science and Technology or the DOST have jointly developed in 2020 a Space Data Dashboard, providing a window to the application of satellite-derived data monitoring the impacts of the pandemic to both our natural and built environment.

(3-minute reading time)

Allow me to stress that even prior to the establishment of our national space agency, the Philippine government, mainly through the DOST in cooperation with the academe, has implemented various space-related programs and projects contributing to the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030).

With the Philippine Space Agency, we hope to bolster our efforts in monitoring and advancing the country's implementation of the Plan of Action. We are hopeful of our sustained cooperation with other government agencies in the Philippines, such as the DOST, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) towards this end.

It is in this light that the Philippines reaffirms its commitment in ensuring the country's implementation of the Phase II of the Plan of Action (2022-2026) through Space+. We are also looking forward to participating in regional initiatives to operationalize Space+, further strengthening our commitment to regional cooperation. In particular, we ascertain our participation in Indonesia's initiative on a virtual constellation for disaster risk management, promoting open satellite data access for near real-time disaster risk management in the Asia Pacific.

We likewise appreciate initiatives such as the PARGAPi-PAN project, a technology transfer, data-sharing, capacity-building, and international cooperation initiative on air pollution by the Republic of Korea (ROK), in achieving an inclusive, resilient and sustainable Asia-Pacific region. PhilSA is very much looking forward to working with other countries in the region for this project.

In conclusion, Mr. Chair, the Philippines assures the Committee and the Secretariat of its full support and commitment to the proceedings of this Session. I commend the Secretariat for its tremendous efforts leading up to this Session and in preparing for the 4th Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific. I am optimistic that this session will be an opportunity for everyone to work together towards ensuring a successful 4th Ministerial Conference.

Thank you very much.

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