Statement by
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At the thematic debate on Outer Space (Disarmament Aspect),
the First Committee of the 65th Session of the UNGA

Mr. Chairman,
The 21st century is an era of space science and the peaceful use of the outer space is the unanimous desire of the international community.

However, regrettably, arms race is being extended to the outer space constituting a serious challenge to the peace and security of the mankind.

With regard to the peaceful use of the outer space, my delegation would like to highlight the issue of arms race in the outer space.

Today, the arms race in the outer space is running to the irreversible extent, raising a serious concern of the international community.

As well known, the United States, after withdrawing unilaterally from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in the early 2000s, is investing astronomical financial resources in developing the outer space weapons while accelerating its efforts to establish the Missile Defense System with elements combined with the outer space.

May I stress on this occasion that it is none other than the United States that either ignores or opposes the initiatives intended to ensure transparency in the space activities and prohibit arms race in the outer space which have been put on the agenda in the UN General Assembly and the CD.
The Missile Defence System that the United States is pursuing over the recent years under the pretext of the so-called “threats from the Ballistic Missiles of the DPRK and Iran” constitute the typical example.

The purposes of the United States to network the whole world with the Missile Defense System, is to control its strategic rivalries and the so-called threats of the DPRK and Iran are no more than excuses to conceal its genuine purpose. The US is a major source of igniting arms race in the outer space.

On the other hand, in 2008, Japan replaced its domestic law on prevention of militarization of the outer space with a new space law, so-called “Main Law on Space” to justify its military use of the space. Following a new law enactment, Japan with the United States wasted no time in moving towards a co-development of the Missile Defence System in the Northeast Asia.

What is dangerous is the attempts of Japan to launch the early warning satellite to put the neighboring countries under its surveillance, trying to connect it with the Missile Defence System.

It shows clearly that Japan is increasing its preemptive strike capacity against other countries including the DPRK by using the outer space.

We extend our strong support to the initiatives to prevent the arms race in the outer space, as a contribution to the world peace and security.

Thank you