

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva remarks on the occasion of International Day of Human Space Flight

Today, on the International Human Space Flight Day, established by the decision of the United Nations General Assembly, I would like to recall and underscore the basic elements of Belarus' position regarding outer space.

The Republic of Belarus is firmly convinced that the use of outer space should serve the purposes of the development of all mankind.

The outer space must remain peaceful and free of weapons as well.

The United Nations Conference on Disarmament should make an important contribution to these approaches.

Belarus is interested in the resumption of the effective work of the Conference on the "Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space".

In this regard we welcome recent progress in revitalizing of the Conference.

We welcome the establishment within its framework of a subsidiary body for the prevention of an arms race in outer space. We congratulate Ambassador of Brazil Guilherme Patriota on the appointment to the post of the coordinator of this subsidiary body. We wish our colleague effective and efficient work.

The Belarusian delegation to the UN Conference on Disarmament will be an active participant in the relevant discussions and negotiations and will support initiatives aimed at strengthening the legal regime for the demilitarization of outer space.