China’s Efforts in Pushing Forward the PPWT

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Brief history on PAROS in CD

- In 1981, UNGA Res/36/97c
- In 1982, PAROS listed as one agenda item for CD
- From 1985 to 1994, CD Ad Hoc Committee on PAROS and 10 annual reports
- Despite of the stalemate in CD, discussions on PAROS continued.
Evolutionary efforts on PAROS

- **In 2000**, CD/1606, position paper by China
  -- not to test, deploy or use weapons, weapon systems or components in OS
  -- clear definitions on “outer space”, “space weapons”, “weapon systems”, “components of weapon systems”
  -- open to verification
- **In 2001**, CD/1645, possible elements by China
Evolutionary efforts on PAROS

- **In 2000**, CD/1606, position paper by China

- **In 2001**, CD/1645, possible elements by China
  - “Four Not”;
  - did not give definition on “space weapons”
  - verification “need further consideration and development”
Evolutionary efforts on PAROS (cont.)

- **In 2002**, CD/1679, by 7 countries including China
  -- basic obligation
  -- “threat or use of force against OS objects”

- **In 2006**, CD/1769, the Q & A, by Russia and China
- **In 2007**, CD/1818, the Q & A, by Russia and China.
Evolutionary efforts on PAROS (cont.)

- In 2006, CD/1778, CD/1779, CD/1780, CD/1781

  -- CBMs

  (a) aimed at enhancing transparency;
  (b) aimed at expansion of information on OS objects;
  (c) related to rules of conduct for OS activities
In 2006, CD/1778, CD/1779, CD/1780, CD/1781 -- verification

(a) Remote-sensing survey: OS to OS survey; OS to the earth survey; the Earth to OS survey;

(b) On-site inspections: Inspections of relevant space research labs on the ground; Verification of objects intended to be launched at launching sites.
Evolutionary efforts on PAROS (cont.)

In 2008, CD/1839, the PPWT, by Russia and China.
-- Art. II on basic obligation;
-- Art. I on “use of force” or the “threat of force”;
-- Art. VI leaves room for CBMs;
-- Art. VI is open to a verification protocol.

In 2009, CD/1872, the Q & A, by China and Russia.
Efforts alongside the CD

- **UNGA** Resolutions & side events
- **UNCOPUOS, ITU**, international organizations
- **Since 2002**, UNIDIR space security conference
- **Since 2005**, China has been one of donors to this conference.
- **Bilateral consultations**
Major Findings & Conclusions

- **Necessity**

- **Desirability**: space debris ? soft rules?

- **Feasibility**
  - technical, legal, political and financial
  - definition, scope, verification, CBMs, etc.
Major Findings & Conclusions (cont.)

- Necessity
- **Desirability**: space debris? soft rules?
- Feasibility
  - technical, legal, political and financial
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Major Findings & Conclusions (cont.)

- Necessity
- Desirability: space debris ? soft rules?
- Feasibility
  -- technical, legal, political and financial
  -- definition, scope, verification, CBMs, etc.
A good basis for future steps

👍 Three-folded goals:

-- No weapon placed in outer space;
-- No use of force against OS objects;
-- No threat of use of force against OS objects.
Possible steps forward – In the CD

- Substantive discussion – based on CD 1863 in 2009, negotiation mandate more preferable
- No pre-conditions
- Revised draft with reflection on critical issues, including verification and CBMs.
Possible steps forward – in parallel

- UN GGE on outer space TCBMs in 2012
- International & regional seminars
- Bilateral consultations
Thanks