

## **Выступление на ЕМКК (EISC) – Круглый стол «Роль парламентов»**

Dear Mr. Chairman! Dear delegates! Ladies and Gentlemen!

I avail myself of this favorable opportunity to express several thoughts on the role of national parliaments in the development of the space sector.

We clearly see that today's key issues for development of the world space sector include integration of space activities into the economies of the states, use of space applications as a tool for resolving topical issues faced by the society as a whole, development of markets for space products and services, and, finally, use of the capacities of the rocket and space industry as a driving force for innovative development. Due to increased globalization in the world economy, issues related to development of institutional framework for space activities are becoming ever more visible on the international level. In this context, it is worth noting that the globalization gives the national parliaments an opportunity – which they should not neglect - to participate more effectively in the process of setting the current and perspective space policy agendas, as well as in addressing the agenda issues, since national parliaments of the world, both in their legislative and representative capacity, have vast capabilities to adjust the balance between the interests of supranational corporations and national interests of specific states. This is of special importance for the space sector, given that national states are still playing a significant role in it, as stipulated in the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, according to which states are held absolutely liable for space activities.

National parliaments are responsible for ensuring an effective “legislative environment” in the sphere of scientific and technical progress, hi-tech applications and monitoring of their impact on social processes in their respective countries, as well as on the regional and international levels, in the circumstances of globalization. This process could be considerably facilitated by a dialogue between the parliamentary democratic institutions and civil society institutions and expert community. On the other hand, parliaments, as well as other branches of power, are responsible for minimizing possible negative impacts of the new technologies

on the social processes and preventing destructive actors from using break-through technologies. This requires joint result-oriented efforts on harmonizing and synchronizing the related legislations.

We think that, while discussing the strategy for interparliamentary cooperation on issues related to development of specific technologies and hi-tech sphere in general, it would be advisable to consider a possibility to establish permanent interparliamentary working groups on key issues of the humanitarian and scientific and technical sphere, as well as work out mechanisms for interparliamentary information exchange in the sphere of analyzing threats and predicting emerging challenges with a view to introducing related legislative initiatives in a timely manner.

Specificity of the EISC format of interaction is determined by the fact that it is specifically oriented to address issues related to exploration and use of outer space. Russia is working towards achieving a number of tasks set forth by the Conference, which are as follows: further harmonization of the Russia-Europe partnership in the outer space sector, including the legislative framework for the Russia-EU dialogue on issues related to space activities, effective support of the related interests of the Russian and European space industry in the Russian Federation and the European Union, and strengthening of its positions through interparliamentary work with organizations from other countries and in the format of international conferences. We continue developing both multilateral and bilateral contacts by actively participating in the delegation exchange. We are routinely receiving delegations from various countries since we have accumulated a lot of experience in this sphere, which we are ready to share with others. This adds to the transparency, which today is key for achieving progress.

Having gained some experience in face-to-face international cooperation, we think that our annual meetings during the Conference are no longer enough. We suggest that the Conference activities should be extended through setting up meetings of expert analysts and expert analytical groups, which are functioning in most parliaments, and giving such groups a special status in the EISC and

organizing their interaction through modern information resources. In this regard, we deem it advisable to actively develop the Internet resources of the EISC, including the related web-site.

The number of states seeking to actively engage in space activities is constantly growing. New “space clusters” are appearing, for example, those in the Asia-Pacific region. In this context, we suggest that EISC consider possible ways to extend our cooperation beyond the European boundaries – with a view to organizing an International Space Conference, although, perhaps, it will take some time. Today, however, we once again reaffirm our commitment to the EISC major approaches to organization of interparliamentary cooperation in the space sector, as well as our readiness and willingness to hold one of the forthcoming Conferences in Russia, which is the country of the First Sputnik and the first man in space and an active participant in the major programs in the sphere of space exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. And I would like to stress once again that Russia attaches great importance to all the dimensions of the Conference work and remains committed to the idea of full-fledged participation in the activities of the EISC as its permanent member.

Thank you for your attention.