

SOUTH AFRICA

DRAFT STATEMENT

AGENDA ITEM 08: SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

June 2023

Mr Chair,

South Africa is using space technology in Oceans and Coastal Information Management System (OCIMS).

In this regard, the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, through funding from Government, is leading a consortium that is developing a South African constellation of low-cost nanosatellites to facilitate South African Marine Domain Awareness (MDA) in support of Environmental Conservation and Socio-Economic impact for Oceans Economy.

Mr Chair,

South Africa has two Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) in RSA Mainland and the Prince Edward and Marion Islands in the Southern Ocean. These areas are vast and needs constant surveillance that can only be done through the use space technology. The areas that addressed for sustainable development include Integrated Vessel Tracking (IVT), Decision Support Tools for Fisheries and for Aqua-Culture. Vessel data is obtained from satellite through Automatic Identification System (AIS) and Synthetic Aperture Radar.

For Aqua-Culture OCIMS Decision Support Tool provides opportunity to:

- Visualize size and intensity of Algal blooms,
- Identify blooms early
- Predict bloom behaviour

which allows for improved preparedness and the ability to mitigate impact.

Mr Chair, Distinguished Delegates, with these few words I thank you for your kind attention.