



## **INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION**

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February 2020

### **United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**57<sup>th</sup> Session of COPUOS STSC  
Austria, Vienna, 3 - 14 February 2020**

#### **Statement of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)**

**Honorable Chair,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**It is an honour for me to address the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS in my capacity as IAF Vice-President for Relations with International Organizations and representing the newly elected IAF President, Prof. Pascale Ehrenfreund, who could not join us today.**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**Since its creation in 1951 the IAF has pursued its main goal to provide a platform for organizations, communities and individuals, active and enthusiastic about space, to meet, share knowledge and connect with each other in a cooperative spirit. Following its mission of Connecting @All Space People, the IAF continuously seeks to deepen international cooperation worldwide by encouraging the advancement of knowledge about space and fostering dialogue between scientists, engineers, policy makers and all other space actors for the benefit of humanity. Please allow me to briefly highlight some of the IAF's manifold past activities and also give you an outlook on some upcoming events:**



**The 70<sup>th</sup> International Astronautical Congress held in Washington, D.C., United States was an outstanding success with more than 6.800 participants coming from over 80 countries, for an intense week of events, meetings, and discoveries. The Congress started with the Honorable Mike Pence, Vice President of the United States, confirming the USA plans to go forward to the Moon and land the first woman and the next man on the Lunar surface by 2024. The legacy of Moon exploration was also celebrated by the IAF presenting the IAF World Space Award to the Apollo 11 crew. On Industry Day, Blue Origin founder, Jeff Bezos was awarded the first IAF Excellence in Industry Award for Blue Origin's accomplishment with the New Shepard launcher. The IAC 2019 also featured an extensive programme, including countless technical presentations, panel discussion and bilateral meetings.**

**In a continuously evolving and diversifying space environment with new actors and space entrepreneurs as well as an increasing number of emerging space nations getting involved, the IAF commits to supporting globalization of space through its manifold platforms and activities. The new IAF President, Pascale Ehrenfreund, took up duty on Friday 25 October 2019 and announced her IAF Global Advocacy Agenda 2019 – 2022, focusing on 3 main principles: support and facilitate global space governance, stimulate and propel global space economy and, finally, influence and foster global space advocacy. With the support of the entire IAF Community and the experienced team of IAF Bureau Members, the Federation will continue to**



**guarantee a sustainable further development of the space community taking into account and responding to global challenges ahead of us.**

**After the roaring success of the IAF Global Conference for Emerging Countries (GLEC 2019) that took place in Marrakech, Morocco in April 2019, the next IAF Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2020), co-organized by the IAF and ROSCOSMOS, will take place in St. Petersburg, Russia from 09 to 11 June 2020. The Conference will bring together leaders and decision-makers within the science and human exploration community to discuss recent results, current challenges and innovative solutions. The Conference will foresee several opportunities to learn about how space exploration investments provide benefits as well as discuss how those benefits can be increased through thoughtful planning and cooperation.**

**The successful series of International Space Forums at Ministerial Level (ISF), initiated in Trento in 2016, thanks to the cooperation of the IAF and the Italian Space Agency - ASI, continued in 2019 with a new regional edition: the Mediterranean Chapter. During this fourth edition of the Forum, which took place in Reggio Calabria, Italy, representatives from the region's countries engaged in an interesting discussion about the role space technologies could play in facing some of the challenges in the area, and the opportunities that the development of the space sector could bring for the socio-economic development.**



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**The IAF invites you to Save the Date for the upcoming 71<sup>st</sup> International Astronautical Congress, that will take place in Dubai, UAE from 12 to 16 October 2020 under the theme “Inspire, Innovate & Discover for the Benefit of Humankind”. With the IAC 2020, hosted by the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre, the UAE will become the first-ever Arab country to host this annual, high profile gathering of the international space community. The year 2020 is set to become a cornerstone in the nation’s history — millions of visitors and nearly 200 participating nations will converge in Dubai for the region’s first-ever World Expo and for the UAE’s space sector, it marks the moment in which years of hard work will come to fruition: the MBRSC will launch its Hope Probe, its space-exploration spacecraft to Mars.**

**The IAF, together with UNOOSA and MBRSC are currently working on the twenty-eight Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits that will be held in conjunction with, and as an associated event of the 71<sup>st</sup> IAC from 09 to 11 October 2020. We look forward to welcoming you in Dubai in October!**

**Distinguished delegates,**

**On behalf of the International Astronautical Federation, let me thank you for your attention. We hope to welcome you at our next events, and I would like to close by showing a short video with some impressions of past and future events.**