

Agenda item 4
General Exchange of Views

Statement of the Republic of Poland

**Fifty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

Madam Chair,

on behalf of the Polish Delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of this Subcommittee. I deeply believe that your knowledge, experience and leadership will contribute to the success of this meeting.

We would also like to express our appreciation to all Members of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs bureau for their everyday effort, continued support and the excellent preparation of this Session.

Madam Chair, distinguished Delegates,

Space activity is a joint venture effort. Thus, the milestone for Poland in this respect was our membership in the European space organizations. Since 2004, Polish entities have been involved in the European Union's scientific and research programs related to space. We are also a full member of EUMETSAT (European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites) and ESO (European Southern Observatory).

In 2012, Poland joined the European Space Agency. As a result, Poland is participating in important ESA missions, currently under preparation, such as: JUICE (JUper ICy moons Explorer) – the first large-class mission in ESA's Cosmic Vision 2015-2025 programme, ATHENA (Advanced Telescope for High-ENERgy Astrophysics) – the second L-class mission and ARIEL (Atmospheric Remote-sensing Infrared Exoplanet Large-survey) – the fourth medium-class ESA science mission.

Furthermore, Poland participates in ESA Space and Safety programme (former SSA). In the ionospheric expert center, Poland deals mostly with Space Weather. Poland is also active in the laser and telescopes observations of

satellites in the EU consortium for Space Surveillance and Tracking. Poland is also active in laser and telescopes observations of satellites in EU consortium for Space Surveillance Tracking.

In 2019, the Polish Space Agency established the National Operational Centre based on the declared network of sensors. Further actions, including development of the SST system, shall lead to the establishment of an independent SST infrastructure in Poland, which would meet the needs of the national administration, and to the development of an appropriate environment for creation of new services and products within the SST sector, which would be offered on both the commercial and institutional markets within the State and abroad.

The Polish scientific and industrial potential, together with constantly growing experience, enable us to get involved in this highly innovative activity and spin off the most technologically advanced products to industry. Let me name a few of the initiatives: Polish private entities and academia are taking part in Solar Orbiter mission and in space lander of INSIDE mission. As a result of successful engagement in NASA IBEX (the Interstellar Boundary Explorer mission), Poland was invited to the next mission dedicated to the interaction of the solar wind with the local interstellar medium. Last but not least, our two BRITE satellites, launched 6 years ago, work successfully providing the jets of scientific data.

Internally, we work in accordance with the Polish Space Strategy, which is well coordinated with the EU Space Strategy for Europe. The detailed Polish Space Programme is currently under development in the Polish Space Agency.

Madam Chair,

As the EU Member State, Poland aligns with the EU statement presented on the occasion of the fifty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Furthermore, we strongly believe that space solutions can help to address the global challenges such as climate change, crisis management or transport development. We would also like to point out that new technologies of Space Surveillance and Tracking, as well as active space debris removal need good

Space Weather services. Thus, Poland strongly supports the issue related to the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities

In that context, Poland welcomes the extension of the mandate of the COPUOS Expert Group on Space Weather until 2021 and supports the view that the international coordination group for Space Weather should be established in close collaboration with other international bodies. Poland works in COSPAR for UNOOSA, for ICAO providing provisional service participating in PECASUS – one of the three consortiums, which provide services aiming at mitigation of Space Weather impact on civil aviation. Moreover, Poland is involved in the Inter-Programme Team on Space Weather Information, Systems and Services (IPT-SWeISS) of WMO (World Meteorological Organisation) and the International Space Environmental Service. The structure and working mechanism of such a group could be elaborated in the course of before mentioned, well-established international space weather activities.

Finally, Poland supports United Nations Programme on Space Applications. Disaster management and climate, Remote sensing and Global navigation satellite systems will pave the way to the future „Space 2030” Agenda. For these reasons, Poland gives the strong support to “Long-term sustainability of outer space activities”.

Madam Chair, Distinguish Delegates,

Thank you very much for your attention.