

VIDEO STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION OF BRAZIL, MARCOS PONTES

Madame chair, distinguished delegates,

Good morning.

First of all, I would like to emphasize the commitment of Brazil, the Government of Brazil and special commitment of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, in cooperating with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, also with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), as a very important tool and very important multilateral forum for discussing the best use of space exploration for the benefit of humanity.

September last year, we signed a memorandum of understanding with UNOOSA, talking about not only space technology cooperation, but also space law, management of natural disasters, and many other applications of space for sure very important, not only for Brazil, but we can, by sharing the information also with other countries. By the way, the new initiative, the Open Universe Framework, is also very important in the sense of sharing information, sharing research and, by working together, for sure we can get much better results for all of us.

Actually at this time, with the pandemic, we can verify very easily the needs of the union among the countries, also the need of sharing information and how this is important, not only to solve the situation right now, but also to protect the next generations from the challenges that we have to face. So I am very looking forward, actually, for the signing of this new initiative, the Open Universe Framework.

I would like to give you some ideas about things that we are doing in the space area here, in Brazil. First of all, we've got the launch of the satellite Amazon-1, that was launched from India, and this satellite was very important, first of all because it was developed completely in Brazil. So, besides the uses of the satellite for monitoring deforestation of the Amazon, to help with the research in the oceans and other biomes in Brazil, but also, by being designed and built in Brazil, this satellite is also very important for developing our space industry in this country.

Also another good news about the space exploration, here in Brazil, the space program, is about the launch of other satellite, called NanoSatC-Br2. This nanosat was built and designed by university (University of Santa Maria), which is very important, not only for the scientific application of the satellite, but also to develop the new generations of professionals to work with our space program.

About the launch systems we have here in Brazil, in Alcântara, So our launch site has been advancing in terms of development, we have now companies that are certified to work with us in this launch center. Also, we have another public call going on at this moment, to call more international companies to work with us and

this will be very important for Brazil and for the development of the space exploration of the entire planet.

Also about the launch center, I would like to emphasize the importance of working with the communities that live around the launch center. We are working with them to develop the region, to develop the villages. From them, we expect to have the next professionals, from next generation, working inside the launch center and also in all the businesses that are going to be developed in that region.

So this is really important, seeing space as a tool, not only in applications for development from the space, but also using the infrastructure to help all the economic and social development of the region.

So I am really happy with all that is happening at this moment in Brazil about the space program, and I hope we are going to continue and improve the cooperation with UNOOSA and COPUOS, so we can have more and more participation of the Brazilian space program and Brazilian industry all around the space exploration on this planet.

So, again, thank you very much for this opportunity, for participating in this important event. I hope next time we can be in person. And also is important to remember the sixtieth anniversary of Yuri Gagarin flight. And this I hope will be an inspiration not only for us – and I confess that by walking the same path that Yuri Gagarin walked there in Zvyozdny gorodok Star City I was very inspired- and I hope his advance for the space program also can inspire the next generations of astronauts, engineers, and all the professionals, for the benefit of the humanity using space. So, thank you very much, I hope next time we be in person.