



June 2018

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

61<sup>st</sup> Session of COPUOS (including the high-level UNISPACE+50 segment)  
Austria, Vienna - 20 to 29 June 2018

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

Madam Chair,  
Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honour for me to address the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in my capacity as IAF Vice-President for International Relations and Outreach and representing the IAF President Dr. Jean-Yves Le Gall, who could not join us today. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the outgoing Chair – Mr. David Kendall, who skillfully guided the work of the Committee for the past two years and congratulate Ms. Rosa María Ramírez de Arellano and Mr. André João Rypł for their election to the office of Chair of the Committee, for the years 2018 and 2019, respectively.

Distinguished delegates,

UNISPACE+50 promises to be a watershed in the discussion and formulation of new directions concerning the global governance of outer space activities. The unprecedented development of space activities, by a broad range of actors, has underscored the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and expand the role of space science and technology applications to meet the growing challenges to humanity. In this regard, the IAF continues to encourage active dialogue between space actors on space security and sustainability. The inter-relationship and dialogue between space-faring nations and emerging space nations provide fundamental prerequisites for success in meeting these demands. The IAF is globally recognized as the tangible example of how the evolution and success of international cooperation can provide impetus for future international processes relating to global space cooperation and coordination mechanisms. Please let me outline some of them:

#### **IAF Global Innovation Agenda 2016-2019**

The IAF has been immensely successful in attracting the leading space nations, both from the developed and developing world, to its manifold events and activities. One of the priority actions of Dr. Jean-Yves Le Gall's IAF Global Innovation Agenda 2016-2019 was the establishment of a Working Group on "*Emerging Countries*" under the lead of the IAF Vice-President for Emerging Countries - Dr. Valanathan Munsami. This Working Group has recently adopted an implementation plan which spells out a suite of interventions to actively engage and attract emerging countries.

#### **International Space Forum (ISF) at Ministerial Level**

Capacity Building, Environmental Sustainability and Space Partnerships have been the three topics of the International Space Forum (ISF) held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in Kenya's capital, Nairobi. The meeting - the second at ministerial level after the 2016 edition in Trento (Italy) - focused on the African Continent: "*Space Science and Academia for Sustainable Development in Africa*". Initiated by former IAF Vice President Prof. Roberto Battiston, Ministries of Science, University and Research, Space Authorities and Agencies met under the auspices of the IAF, the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the Kenyan Ministry of Defence, realizing productive discussions on how Space Science and Education can support the understanding and exploitation of Space benefits for Africa's socio-economic development. At the end of the conference the delegates from 29 African countries and 14 National and International Space Agencies adopted a statement



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that summarized the main results of the discussions and provided recommendations to the African space community. This 2<sup>nd</sup> regional Forum in Africa represents an important contribution towards the achievement of the ambitions and aspirations of the African countries in space. The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of this Forum at regional level will focus on Latin America and is planned for autumn 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

### IAF Global Conferences

The IAF Global Space Applications Conference GLAC 2018, co-organized by the IAF and the Centro de Investigación y Difusión Aeronáutico Espacial (CIDAIE), opened its doors on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018, in Montevideo, Uruguay. The three-day conference offered high-level panels, plenary sessions and keynotes reviewing the state of the art of satellite-based applications, with a focus on: farming and fishing, integrated risk management, climate natural resources, mapping and legal regulations. Overall, GLAC 2018 provided detailed insights on the current space applications' efforts carried out by agencies and industries. The 200 delegates from 24 countries left the conference with a clearer view and knowledge of the future of space applications and their concrete benefits in our daily lives.

IAF will continue its series of IAF Global Conferences with a Global Conference on Space for Emerging Countries GLEC 2019 under the theme "*Bridging the space divide for emerging countries*". The event, co-organised by IAF, the Centre Royal de Télédétection Spatiale (CRTS) and the French Space Agency CNES, will be held in Rabat - Morocco, on 24-26 April 2019. The three-day conference will explore topics such as: Benefits of Space Technology and Applications to Socio-Economic Development, Financial Models and Resourcing, Technology and Skills Development, Base Infrastructure Requirements, Space Industry Development and Support, Legal and Policy.

### 69<sup>th</sup> IAC in 2018

The IAF invites you to Save the Date for the 69<sup>th</sup> International Astronautical Congress IAC. The IAC is one of the world's most exciting, diverse and rewarding professional space meetings, and the IAF has a remarkable history of successful and productive annual congresses since the beginning of the space age. IAC2018, hosted by the Center of Applied Space Technology and Microgravity (ZARM), will take place for the second time in Bremen, Germany, the "City of Space" from 1<sup>st</sup>– 5<sup>th</sup> October. With its outstanding and extensive space sector encompassing global players in industry and internationally renowned research institutes, Bremen offers an exceptionally fruitful environment for assembling the global space community under the theme "*IAC 2018 - Involving Everyone*".

The twenty sixth UN / IAF Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits: "*Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure for Development (3Is4D)*" will be held in conjunction with, and as an associated event of the 69<sup>th</sup> IAC from 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. We look forward to welcoming you in October in Bremen.

Distinguished delegates,

The engagement of the IAF in tackling the UNISPACE +50 challenges in exceptionally strong and we are confident that very positive decisions, actions and fruitful cooperation will be forthcoming from our events in the near future in order to substantially enhance the framework of safety, security and sustainability of outer space activities for current and future generations. We look forward to seeing you at our next events.

Thank you for your attention.

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Mr Sergei Krikalev  
Vice-President for International Relations and Outreach  
International Astronautical Federation