

## STATEMENT OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

### AGENDA ITEM 12. SPACE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

1. Thank you Mr. Chairman,
2. Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,
3. The United Arab Emirates recognizes the importance of remote sensing as an essential element with societal, economic and environmental benefits across all social layers and multiple sectors.
4. Space utilization plays a vital role in monitoring weather, climate change, and the environment, management of natural resource, crises and disaster management, and rescue and humanitarian aid programs.
5. As such, the UAE has been investing, and still invests in remote sensing platforms.
6. In the area of better understanding of our planet, and support the international challenges such as climate change, the UAE have launched several space programs and initiatives supporting the global efforts i.e. Launching of Earth Observation satellites i.e. DubaiSat-1, DubaiSat-2, KhalifaSat, MeznSat, DMSat, and MBZSat (currently being developed).
7. We continues to harvest significant spatial images that are used for several purposes such as urban development, agriculture, environment, application development and many more.
8. The UAE has also launched environmental satellites serving research and development institutes to enrich the environmental research specifically tackling climate change through MeznSat, a nanosatellite built and being operated by Emirati Universities.
9. KhalifaSat aims to assist with a range of tasks including aiding relief efforts after disasters. These highly-detailed images aim to help governments and private companies across the globe with a range of tasks including disaster relief efforts,

climate change, environmental protection and urban planning. KhalifaSat is also expected to provide detailed imagery of the ice caps at the North and South Poles, helping to detect the effects of global warming.

10. In addition, governmental entities such as Dubai Municipality have ventured in owning and operating environmental satellites to monitor air quality and Green-House Gas (GHG) emissions to appropriately address environmental challenges.
11. Remote sensing our big blue marble, earth, was only a pit stop for the UAE.
12. The Emirates Mars Mission has been an extension of the UAE's efforts in remote sensing, reaching out to Mars to study its weather and bringing back the data to make it available for scientific institutions worldwide with the ultimate goal of benefiting humankind.
13. Thank you Mr. Chairman.