

 Permanent
Mission
of Austria

to the United
Nations in Vienna

AUSTRIA, ITEM 11

Space and climate change

66th COPUOS (31 May – 9 June 2023)

Mr. Johann SPITZER, Minister-Counsellor

Chair,
Excellencies – Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Report of the **High-Level Advisory Board on effective multilateralism “A Breakthrough for People and Planet”** speaks of a **triple planetary crisis: climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution**. The Board believes that **international cooperation** is the key to the way forward.

To strengthen international cooperation in the area of **Space for climate action** we continue our efforts to demonstrate that **space technologies and applications** support the **green transition** and offers opportunities for **prosperity and sustainable development**.

From **12 – 14 September 2023**, the **UN/Austria Symposium** will take place in Graz, Austria, with online access. The theme of this year’s symposium is **“Space for climate action: space applications and technologies for sustainability on Earth”**.

Thanks to the very positive feedback, we will have again **concrete case studies about using space applications for adaptation to the climate crisis, pilot projects as well as lessons learnt**. Many thanks to **Brazil, Slovenia and South Africa** for presenting their activities and sharing their experiences with us.

In addition, the Symposium will address current and **innovative space applications** to mitigate the impact of the climate crisis in the areas of **transport, energy production and food production** as well as **sustainability in and of space**.

You will find **information and registration details** on the UNOOSA website. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 11 June, and the deadline for attendees to register is 30 June.

Last year, thanks to the generous support of several partners we could also offer **training sessions** after the symposium. As this offer was very much in demand, we plan to repeat it this year.

With these activities, we aim to help **raise awareness and know-how of space applications in the response to the climate crisis** as well as to **increase the use of space data, services and solutions** to better cope with climate challenges and support space data-based climate policies worldwide.

Thank you!