

67<sup>th</sup> Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUS)

**Statement by the United Arab Emirates**

Agenda item 12: Space and climate change

Dear Mr. Chair, distinguished Delegates,

The United Arab Emirates recognizes the important role that space technologies play in providing crucial tools to monitor and understand climate changes. These systems help in understanding, monitoring and developing effective strategies to combat the effects of climate change and provide sustainable solutions to the environmental challenges our planet faces today.

As part of the UAE's efforts in contributing to mitigating climate change utilizing space technologies, at 28th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP28), hosted in the UAE, the UAE Space Agency established a dedicated zone, the Space Pavilion, aiming at leveraging space technology for sustainability, addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, and promoting the latest sustainable technologies in the space sector.

Held within the Space Pavilion, the Space for Sustainability Conference hosted over 60 sessions by national and international space community, that delved into ways of monitoring the climate, better understating of critical issues such as methane and greenhouse gas emissions, highlighting the urgency of addressing these challenges through collective efforts and innovative solutions.

The discussions of the Space for Sustainability Conference were instrumental in fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among the international space community, focusing on several aspects of satellite data utilization, space technology for sustainability, climate change responses, innovative space initiatives, and funding for space climate programs.

Mr. Chair,

Following the Space for Sustainability Conference, on 4<sup>th</sup> of December of 2023, the UAE Space Agency hosted the Space Agencies Leaders' Summit. This summit hosted leaders from over 20 international space agencies, fostering collaboration between global climate policy makers and global space sector leaders to advance initiatives aimed at solving climate change challenges.

The summit concluded with a collective pledge to enhance space-based climate initiatives, reaffirming our dedication to the commitments made under the Paris Agreement, noting the below agreed principles:

1. Enhancing Data Sharing
2. Strengthening Climate Research
3. Supporting Comprehensive Climate Monitoring
4. Promoting Sustainable Space Activities

5. Raising Awareness about Climate Change
6. Technological Solutions and Entrepreneurship
7. Financing Space-Climate Programs

Moreover, we organized the “Climate Innovation Sprint - Earth Observation Solutions” 3 days hackathon, with the participation of entrepreneurs, data scientists, and programmers to develop our national capabilities on the analytics of space data addressing sustainability challenges. The themes for the hackathon were loss and damage, food security, land use, and climate-induced disasters.

Mr. Chair,

The UAE recognizes that success is a result of collective international efforts, moving forward the UAE is committed to continuing these efforts in collaboration with the Republic of Azerbaijan As the hosting country of COP29.

In conclusion, the UAE remains dedicated to utilizing space technology to address climate challenges with the international space community.

Thank you Mr. Chair.