

Statement Item 13: Use of space technology in the United Nations system

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to report on the outcome of the UN-Space 19th Open Session, held on October 19th in Brindisi where United Nations Logistic Base is located, as previously mentioned by UNOOSA Director Aarti Holla-Maini.

Organized by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs in collaboration with the Italian Space Agency, and hosted at the Department of Operational Support of the United Nations Global Service Centre, the event focused on "**Earth observation and integrated applications for disaster risk management and sustainable development.**" This session provided an excellent opportunity to showcase United Nations agency initiatives and practical applications of space technologies, particularly those dedicated to Earth observation.

The event saw participation from several UN agencies, including the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Food Program (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Telecommunications Union (ITU), to mention few of them. Additionally, experts from the Italian Space Agency (ASI), European Space Agency (ESA), the Apulia Aerospace Technology District, and Italian companies contributed bringing a different perspective to the discussion.

Throughout the event global efforts to ensure access to space-based information for disaster management and beyond have been highlighted. Italian experts at the event highlighted significant advancements in utilizing satellite data for disaster management. Key topics included enhancing emergency response capabilities through satellite-based early warning systems for meteorological risks and managing forest fires and floods. They also showcased Earth observation satellites' effectiveness in mapping areas affected by disasters like floods, fires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, emphasizing their integration into coordinated national and European responses. Additionally, experts discussed around future satellite constellations designed to bolster surveillance for hydrogeological instability and highlighted contributions in climate forecasting and emergency response from missions like COSMO-SkyMed, PRISMA, and PLATiNO.

The session successfully brought together diverse stakeholders to exchange views, share information, and explore synergies for enhancing global resilience through satellite technology. Italy and ASI are

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particularly proud of the collaboration achieved by UNOOSA, which facilitated new partnerships and included multiple different voices to the discussion.

Thank you for your attention.