



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

Statement by Ambassador Barbara Žvokelj,
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the International Organisations in Vienna,
at the sixty-seventh session
of the United Nations Committee of the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
Vienna, 19 June 2024

Thank you Mister Chairperson.

Excellences, distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In addition to what has been said on behalf of the EU, I would like to make several remarks in my national capacity.

Mister Chairperson,

At the outset I would like to congratulate you, Chair, on your election and express our support for your leadership. We very much appreciate the excellent work of UNOOSA under the leadership of the Director, Mrs. Aarti Holla-Maini for the preparation of this session.

Today, I am pleased to highlight two significant milestones that underscore Slovenia's commitment to the peaceful and

cooperative exploration of outer space. Yesterday, on 18 June, after several years of dedication and commitment to the development of the space sector, Slovenia and European Space Agency signed the Accession Agreement, presenting a basis for Slovenia's full membership in 2025. This membership opens doors to enhanced collaborative opportunities, allowing us to participate in groundbreaking projects and missions that push the boundaries of our understanding of the universe.

We are very proud of this milestone, reaffirming our dedication to safe, sustainable, and peaceful space activities.

Further, in April of this year Slovenia has become a signatory of the Artemis Accords outlining best practices for sustainable space exploration. By joining this important international framework, we affirm our dedication to the principles of responsible and transparent space exploration. The Artemis Accords represent a shared vision for a peaceful and cooperative future in space, guided by norms and best practices that ensure safety, sustainability, and mutual respect among space-faring nations.

International cooperation and multilateral approach are crucial for the global development of the space sector, and for ensuring safe and secure activities in space and on Earth. COPUOS with

its Subcommittees plays a critical role in developing international norms, guidelines, and principles governing outer space activities. We are looking forward to discussing key issues, including space traffic management, long-term sustainability of outer space, and space resources.

With this in mind, my delegation would like to welcome the German proposal for a study group on perspectives on space traffic management.

As the topic of space resources is one of Slovenia's priorities, I would like to congratulate Luxembourg and Belgium for the successful organization of the space resources expert meeting. We would also like to commend the Portuguese Space Agency for its great organization of the Management and Sustainability of Outer Space Activities Conference and the successful adoption of the Lisbon Declaration on Outer Space.

In conclusion, Slovenia is committed to actively promoting the preservation of a safe, secure, and sustainable space environment. We look forward to fruitful and constructive exchanges this week and to successful adoption of the reports.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.