

67th Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)

Statement by the United Arab Emirates

Agenda item 5: General exchange of views

Dear Mr. Chair, Excellencies, and distinguished Delegates,

The United Arab Emirates welcomes the 67th session of the committee and believes that the valuable outcomes of our discussions will contribute into advancing the priorities of promoting international cooperation, ensuring the peaceful use of outer space, and fostering sustainable development in space activities.

At the outset, we would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini on her appointment as the new Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.

We also take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to Mr. Omran Sharaf for his contributions and leadership as Chair of COPUOS over the past two years. We look forward to the continuation of the cooperative and collaborative work.

On behalf of Mr. Omran, we extend our appreciation to the secretariat, and all the member states at COPUOS for their support and engagement during his task of chairing the committee.

Furthermore, we congratulate the newly elected Chair, Dr. Sherif Sedky and the vice chair [to be added]. On this occasion, we would like to assure our commitment to supporting the work of the committee under your leadership.

Esteemed delegates,

The United Arab Emirates has made notable milestones in the space program that underscore our commitment to towards global space community and the shared priorities in science and technology, in line with our efforts to advance the international science and technology priorities and global efforts to sustainable

space exploration, we continue to work with our partners globally in our upcoming missions such as the Emirates Mission to the Asteroid Belt, Artemis Lunar Gateway Airlock, and Rashid rover.

From a policy perspective, we follow a structured and comprehensive approach. Our development framework includes the regulations for space activities, National Space Strategy 2030 and the Space Science and Technology Policy which guides our efforts to align with international law while driving innovation and sustainability in the space sector.

Esteemed delegates,

Last year, the UAE welcomed almost 86,000 participants at COP28. Space was added as a new pillar to the thematic themes of COP, where several activations were made. A notable outcome that was achieved by the support of member states was the Space Agencies Leaders' Summit, resulting in Space Pledge for Enhancing Space-Based Climate Initiatives.

This year, we welcome all member states to advance the dialogue and collaboration among global government officials, space industry leaders, policymakers, and experts from public and private sectors in the upcoming Abu Dhabi Space Debate, which will be held on the 10th and 11th of December.

Thank you, Chair.