



## **KENYA INTERVENTION ON AGENDA ITEM 9: “SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT” DELIVERED TO THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (COPUOS)**

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Thank you Mr. Chair for the opportunity to share Kenya views and recent developments on this Agenda item.

### **Mr. Chair, Excellences and Distinguished Delegates**

1. Kenya recognizes the critical role that space science, technologies and applications play as enablers and drivers in the attainment of sustainable development agendas by providing essential data for decision support, planning and predictive analytics.
2. To raise awareness of the importance of space technology and their applications for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, Kenya hosted a biennial Kenya Space Expo and Conference themed "Space Technologies for Societal Benefits". The event brought together representatives from government, academia, industry, professionals, international organizations, start-ups and the wider public to a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the use of space technologies in addressing societal needs as well as showcasing real applications in socio-economic development.
3. Through our enduring partnership with the Italian Space Agency, Kenya is currently in the process of establishing a centre for earth observation at the Luigi Broglio Malindi Space Centre that will be instrumental in acquisition of earth observation data for use in decision support and planning in agriculture, environmental monitoring, natural resources management and disaster management, among others. This will greatly facilitate development of applications useful for addressing a number of SDG targets. It is expected that the centre will be operational by the end of the year.
4. Further, Kenya has secured support from India in specialized training of its geospatial engineers in the next one month in development of earth observation decision support tools and applications as well as the development of a geoportal for the Kenya earth observation community.

### **Mr. Chairman,**

5. Kenya commends UNOOSA for providing capacity building initiatives and opportunities on Earth observation and space system engineering to developing countries. We have benefited in the development and deployment of small satellites, a space debris tracking telescope through Access to Space for All initiative and development of the Climate Camera module to be deployed on the



International Space Station. These capacity-building opportunities result in high skilled individuals and demonstrate the benefits of space to society.

6. Access to safe potable water is one of the challenge in our region with a multitude of issues affecting water quality, mapping and monitoring. Kenya is utilizing space technology to monitor and manage its water resources effectively including monitoring surface water extent, groundwater resources, and implementing drought monitoring systems based on satellite data.

7. Kenya acknowledges the role of the OOSA in maintaining the United Nations Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space. This transparency mechanism enables Member States to understand the ownership and utilization of space assets launched into the outer space. To fulfill this obligation, Kenya registered Taifa 1 satellite which was launched into outer space in April 2024.

8. Kenya embraces global partnership with governments, space agencies, the private sector and civil society in space matters for sustainable development. We are open to collaboration and partnership in areas of Earth observation, space system engineering and capacity-building opportunities on space matters for our youth. We appreciate the efforts and opportunities that have been availed by Italy, India, France, Japan and others through our various partnerships towards building capacity in space. We welcome considerations from advanced space fairing nations to offer capacity building to Kenyan professionals in space matters.

**Mr. Chairman,**

9. In conclusion, Kenya is dedicated to promote the development of its space industry and leverage the potential of space for sustainable development. We believe that through international cooperation and the sharing of knowledge and resources, we can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and ensure that the benefits of space technology are accessible to all.

10. Together, let us harness the benefits of space for the betterment of our planet and the future of humanity.

**Thank you.**