



**Item 9**

**Space and sustainable development**

**Statement by the Kingdom of Morocco, delivered by**

**The Moroccan delegation, at the 67<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on the  
Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Vienna, 19-28 June 2024**

*\*Check Against Delivery*

**Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco in Vienna**

Telephone: +43 (1) 586 66 50, Postal Address: Hasenauerstraße 57 A-1180 Vienna

Fax : +43 (1) 586 76 67, E-mail : [emb-pmissionvienna@morocco.at](mailto:emb-pmissionvienna@morocco.at)

Mr Chair,

1. Morocco is pleased to brief the Committee on the agenda item 9 “Space and Sustainable Development” and appreciates the opportunity to highlight the linked between Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and space technologies which plays a crucial role in monitoring, understanding, and achieving these goals.

Mr Chair,

2. The Moroccan national sustainable development strategy as well as the achievements and ongoing monitoring actions of the SDGs by all relevant national actors, highlight the commitment of Morocco in the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. **Morocco is engaged in several projects for the use and integration of Earth observation data in different sectors of socio-economic development to support the implementation of sectoral strategies and addressing the need of the sustainable development goals by 2030.**
3. These projects **translate into value-added products and services based on Earth observation data in different areas such as natural resources, water resources, land use planning, agriculture, natural disasters and marine resources.** Images from the Mohamed VI A and B satellite launched in 2017 and 2018 contribute significantly to the development of these products and services.
4. It's worth underlining that Space technologies provide valuable data for the sustainable management of natural resources such as water, soil and forests. **In this regard, several projects have been implemented by the Royal Centre for Remote Sensing and its partners for the management and the optimization of water resources, detection changes in land use and the mapping.**
5. **In the field of natural disaster management,** Morocco remains convinced that geospatial **information is essential, more than ever, to ensure effective management of natural disaster risks during all its phases:** knowledge and evaluation, prevention, preparation for crisis management, recovery and reconstruction. Several projects are being carried out with national Departments and institutions in charge in different areas, including tsunamis, floods, earthquakes and forest fires.
6. **Moreover, significant efforts have been undertaken in the field of space and sustainable development,** particularly at the Oukaimeden observatory, as a part of Cadi Ayyad University. **Many initiatives relating to space sciences have been launched there, in particular to study space risks likely to impact the Earth.** In this respect, **it's worth underlining,** among the themes covered, **space weather, space debris, satellite tracking and the protection of the Dark Sky.** These projects benefit from diversified international cooperation, involving the observation and analysis of phenomena for better risk prediction.

Mr Chair,

7. Regarding the cooperation with African countries in the field of Space and Sustainable Development, **Morocco hosted in April 2024, the annual conference of the African Astronomical Society, with a special session dedicated to space sciences.** This event contributes to establish a network aimed at formalizing this cooperation, with full collaboration with the African Initiative for Planetary and Space Sciences.
8. These efforts made by my country, aim not only to advance scientific knowledge, but also to train future African experts in the space field, thus promoting sustainable development and better preparation in the face of global challenges.

Mr Chair,

9. To conclude, Morocco remains convinced that technologies space contributes to the achievement of the SDGs, and will continue to work towards achieving these objectives.

