

**Ref: AfSA/Ext/007/06.2025**

**Date: 19 June 2025**

The Secretariat  
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)  
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)  
Vienna International Centre  
Wagramerstrasse 5, P.O. Box 500  
A-1400 Vienna, Austria

**Subject: AfSA's Application for Ad Hoc Observer Status – 68th Session of  
COPUOS**

Dear COPUOS Secretariat,

On behalf of the African Space Agency (AfSA), I am pleased to submit our request to participate as an ad hoc observer in the 68th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), scheduled for June 2025.

The African Space Agency is a specialised organ of the African Union (AU), established to coordinate and promote the peaceful use and development of space science, technology, and applications across all AU Member States. AfSA serves as the continental institution mandated to engage with African and international partners on all space-related matters, ensuring alignment, coordination, and harmonisation of efforts within the African Union framework.

AfSA is tasked with the implementation of the African Outer Space Programme, in line with the African Space Policy and Strategy. Our mission is to advance the peaceful use of outer space in support of Africa's sustainable development goals. Since becoming operational in January 2023, AfSA has taken a leading role in strengthening African capabilities in earth observation, satellite navigation, space science, and capacity building.

Our work supports critical areas such as climate resilience, food security, disaster risk management, connectivity, and scientific research—demonstrating the transformative potential of space technologies for the continent.

We recognise the essential role of COPUOS in promoting the responsible and sustainable use of outer space. Participating in the 68th session will enable AfSA to engage in these important multilateral discussions, contribute African perspectives, share our initiatives, and build partnerships with other stakeholders in the global space community.

I will personally represent the African Space Agency at the upcoming session and look forward to contributing meaningfully to the Committee's work.

We appreciate your kind consideration of this request and remain at your disposal for any further information.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A purple ink signature is written over a circular red seal. The seal contains the AfSA logo and the text 'AFRICAN UNION' at the top and 'African Space Agency' at the bottom.

**H.E. Dr. Tidiane Ouattara**  
**President**  
**Council of the African Space Agency**