Statement by the Co-Chairs of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation to the sixty-eighth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna, 30 June 2025

Thank you for giving me the floor, Chair.

Chair, distinguished delegates,

We, as Co-Chairs of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation of the Committee, appreciate the opportunity to report back to the plenary of this Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space regarding the discussions of the Action Team held since the sixty-seventh session of the Committee.

As agreed at its sixty-seventh session, the secretariat had invited contributions from States members of the Committee on the bureau and the workplan of the Action Team.

During the intersessional period, by means of a silence procedure, the Committee established the Action Team's Bureau consisting of two Co-Chairs, Hasan Abbas from Pakistan and Ulpia-Elena Botezatu from Romania. The Action Team had commenced its work by holding meetings during the sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to develop a workplan in accordance with its mandate and methods of work, as reflected in the Committee's report in document A/79/20, annex IV, paras 1 and 11.

The Action Team worked hard by meeting during the sixty-fourth session of the Legal Subcommittee and the sixty-eighth session of the Committee, as well as during the intersessional periods. We had intense and in-depth deliberations at those meetings to finalize the draft workplan including the priority topics which is to be updated until 2026.

At its formal meeting on June 27, the Action Team reached an agreement on the final draft of the workplan including the priority topics as reflected in document A/AC.105/2025/CRP.31 entitled "Draft workplan of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation" for submission to the Committee for its endorsement.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all Action Team members and delegations for their proactive and constructive engagement. We deeply appreciate their valuable insights and contributions to finalizing the draft workplan.

Chair,

Further discussions are needed to elaborate upon subsequent steps to advance the Action Team's work during the intersessional period in accordance with its workplan. To that end, the Action Team has scheduled the last informal meeting during this session to be held on July 1 and will further hold intersessional meetings after the present session of the Committee. The Action Team will continue reporting on the progress made in its work to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Legal Subcommittee and the Committee at their sessions in 2026.

We are encouraged to see the growing number of representatives appointed by member States to participate in the Action Team, with more than 100 representatives from 34 States. We would like to invite other States members who have not yet appointed their representatives to do so, to ensure diverse and expert level exchanges in the work of the Action Team.

We reiterate our gratitude to all delegations for their invaluable contributions to and support for work of the Action Team and look forward to continuing productive exchanges.

Thank you for your attention, Chair.