



June 2025

International Astronautical Federation

68th Session of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space –
UN COPUOS
Vienna, Austria - 25 June to 2 July 2025

STATEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION (IAF) Item 4 “General Exchange of View”

Chair,
Excellencies
Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the International Astronautical Federation, I wish to warmly welcome and acknowledge the hard work of the Chair of the 68th Session, Mr. Rafiq Akram, and thank him for his leadership in steering a productive session that tackles many important issues. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Director Aarti Holla-Maini for her outstanding leadership of the UNOOSA. We pledge our full support throughout this significant gathering.

As the IAF Executive Director, I am honored to provide an overview of the IAF's recent activities and share our vision for 2025 and beyond.

At the 62nd Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) in February, the IAF proudly organized its biennial **IAF Symposium**.

The theme “*Space – Indispensable on the Agenda of Policymakers, Public, and Nations*” sparked discussions on bridging gaps and engaging diverse stakeholders in shaping the future of space through three insightful panels:

- How to Engage Political Decision-Makers in the Space Debate
- How to Secure General Public Support for Space
- How to Embrace Emerging Countries in the Global Space Endeavor

In May, the Federation organized the **IAF Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2025)** in New Delhi, India, in collaboration with its esteemed Member, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). This event attracted over **1,500** participants from **36** countries, making it the largest IAF Global Conference to date.

Looking ahead, the IAF, together with its member - the Space Industry Association of Australia, warmly invites all COPUOS delegations to the **76th International Astronautical Congress (IAC 2025)** in Sydney, Australia, from 29 September to 3 October. Held under the theme “*Sustainable Space* :



INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION

Resilient Earth," IAC 2025 will delve into sustainability, Earth-focused applications, and our collective future in space.

IAC 2025 will also feature the **32nd edition of the IAF Workshop, supported by the United Nations SPIDER programme and the Maldives Space Research Organisation (MSRO)**, from 26 to 28 September 2025.

The Workshop, for which **274** applications from **75** countries were received, will further cement the IAF's mission to engage emerging space players and foster development through space-based solutions

We encourage all stakeholders to register for IAC 2025, with early bird registration closing today — do not miss out on securing your place at the world's premier global space event.

Looking ahead, preparations are underway for the **77th IAC in Antalya, Türkiye, in 2026**, and for the **78th IAC in Poznań, Poland, in 2027** — marking the IAC's return to Poland after more than 60 years.

The Federation is also pleased to announce that the next **IAF Global Space Conference on Climate Change (GLOC 2026)** will take place in Kigali, Rwanda, in June 2026 in cooperation with the IAF member – the Rwanda Space Agency, reinforcing IAF's commitment to sustainability and inclusive dialogue, particularly with countries most vulnerable to climate change.

Chair, distinguished delegates, today more than ever, the IAF's mission is resolutely centred on uniting the global space community through action, dialogue, and innovation.

Thank you for the opportunity to share the IAF's initiatives and vision at the 68th Session of the UN COPUOS . We look forward to a continuous and fruitful collaboration.

Thank you all for your attention.