

Serbia, Item 4: 'General exchange of views'

Distinguished representatives of the member countries of COPUOS, distinguished director of UNOOSA, distinguished representatives of space organizations, and above all dear friends. It is a great honor to address you today on behalf of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation. The Republic of Serbia is considering the possibility of submitting its candidacy for membership in COPUOS, which is a priority for us in order to actively engage in solving key problems when it comes to the development of space exploration and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on that path. We are continuing to work on increasing the capacity of our researchers to engage not only in space exploration from Earth, but also beyond our atmosphere, and I am sure that you will accept us in future activities as equal partners on that path. We advocate for the preservation of dark and quiet skies to ensure that future generations have the opportunity to enjoy a night sky that needs to be explored, because it is certain that the future of humanity is not only tied to planet Earth.

We hope that in the coming period, as a state, we will complete the procedure and submit an application for membership in COPUOS and take a more active part in all programs that UNOOSA implements with our researchers, but also amateur astronomers and as a state. We will actively support work on three key goals: space debris management, space traffic management and space resource management. We will take an active part in monitoring space debris and be an example of good practice in how to manage our satellite resources after the launch of the MOSAIC satellite. We have become active and proud participants in the LSST project and we are sure that we will be active participants in many more similar projects and make a significant contribution to their implementation.

Serbia will host the EXPO27 event, which has already registered 116 exhibitors. We expect to have 130 and I take this opportunity to invite your countries to take part in this great event. Thanks to our President Vučić and the policy of development of Serbia and its technological progress, we want to be good hosts and show the future of humanity through the application of advanced technologies, where space will also play an important role. This will be an excellent opportunity for all of us to send a clear message about the vision of space exploration and its use for a bright and safe future for humanity.

I invite you to establish cooperation with Serbia in this field and to count on us as partners in all endeavors that will contribute to the entire humanity moving towards peace and prosperity.