

68th Session of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna, Austria

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Item 4: General Exchange of Views

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Italy fully aligns with the statement delivered by the EU. I take this opportunity to offer some brief comments in my national capacity.

Mr. Chair, allow me to extend my warm congratulations on your appointment to lead the 68th session of the Committee. My delegation extends its full support for a successful and productive session.

Italy reaffirms its firm commitment to the peaceful, sustainable, and inclusive use of outer space in a world facing significant geopolitical challenges.

In January 2025, the Italian Government published its **Guidelines on Space and Aerospace**, focusing on expanding scientific knowledge, strengthening industry, creating a regulatory framework, and prioritizing international cooperation. Space Diplomacy is highlighted as a key tool for fostering global partnerships.

On June 11th, the Italian Parliament approved the National Space Law — the first in Europe dedicated to the space economy. This law sets a pioneering framework for regulating national space activities, aligned with the Outer Space Treaty principles of safety, sustainability, and the responsible use of outer space. It aims to boost investments, especially for SMEs and startups, fostering innovation and infrastructure. The **Italian Space Agency** has a central role in implementing this new framework — ensuring coordination, oversight, and support for all actors in the sector.

Italy highlights the role of space technologies reaffirmed at the 2024 **G7 Summit** under the Italian presidency, notably in disaster management and climate resilience through geospatial tools and early warning systems.

In May 2025, Italy hosted the **GEO Global Forum**, gathering nearly 100 countries to advance Earth Observation efforts against climate change, biodiversity loss, and food security. The new GEO Work Programme was unanimously approved, emphasizing data sharing and capacity building.

In June, Italy co-organized the **IV Meeting of Space Agencies of IILA Member Countries** with 20 Latin American nations, strengthening cooperation on environment, health, innovation, and capacity building, underscoring the strategic value of space for sustainable development.

Under the **Mattei Plan for Africa**, Italy intensifies cooperation with 22 African countries, leveraging the Malindi Luigi Broglio Space Center and supporting capacity building. The 2024 Italy-Africa Space Conference marked a key step for ongoing collaboration.

As a strong supporter of multilateralism, Italy remains engaged in **ESA**, **EU programs**, and the **Artemis initiative**, contributing — among others — to the Lunar Multi-Purpose Habitat. We support the **Artemis Accords** as a vehicle for inclusive and transparent participation in lunar exploration.

Recent achievements, including the **IRIDE** constellation for environmental monitoring, the **LuGRE** lunar navigation payload, and the **CSES-02** mission on space weather, reflect Italy's integrated approach to innovation and sustainability.

Mr. Chair.

Italy looks forward to the upcoming two years of Presidency of COPUOS. We are honored to lead the preparatory process for **UNISPACE IV** — a crucial opportunity to reinforce international cooperation and address emerging challenges in space governance. We are also committed to work together to advance efforts in promoting access to space solutions, in particular for developing countries, and to promote universal participation to the Outer Space Treaty. We express our sincere appreciation to the Moroccan delegation for their leadership, and to all delegations for their continued support and valuable contributions.

Thank you.