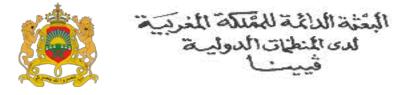
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco To International Organizations in Vienna



Statement by the Kingdom of Morocco, delivered by

H.E Azzeddine FARHANE, Ambassador, Permanent Representative at the 68th Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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Mr. Chair,

- 1. First of all, I wish to extend my warm congratulations to Dr. Rafiq Akram on his election as Chair for this 68th session of COPUOS, and assure him of the full support and cooperation. I seize this occasion to extend my appreciation to Dr. Sherif Mohamed Sedky for his outstanding and substantial chairmanship of the 67th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS).
- 2. My delegation would also like to thank Ms. Aarti Holla Maini, Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, for her opening statement and outstanding dedication. We assure you the full support in the fulfillment of UNOOSA mandate and express our gratitude to the dedicated Secretariat staff for their diligent preparation of documentation and planning for this meeting.
- **3.** My delegation associates itself with **the statements of the G77 and China, as well as the African Group, and would like** and would like to make the following comments on its national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

- 1. Over the past decade, space activities have experienced a major acceleration, a trend set to intensify in the coming years due to the factors driving space evolution. Indeed, we stand on the eve of a new, dynamic, and innovative era in the space sector, where advancements in technology and growing interest from both public and private sectors are fostering unprecedented use and exploration of outer space.
- 2. This new dynamic requires, more than ever, a shared vision, a clear strategy, and concerted actions to ensure a sustainable and peaceful future in space. Hence, the need to develop standards and practices to ensure the long-term sustainability and security of space is crucial to preserving its usefulness for current and future generations. To this end, it is also vital to ensure that space activities are conducted for the benefit of all countries, regardless of their level of development, guaranteeing equitable access, sustainability, and the peaceful use of space as a common heritage for all.
- 3. Morocco firmly believes that international cooperation is the most effective avenue for fully harnessing the potential of outer space, especially in critical areas such as resource monitoring, disaster management, and ensuring equitable access to space technologies, and reaffirms its commitment to all initiatives designed to foster global collaboration and promote the responsible utilization of outer space for the benefit of all humanity.

Mr. Chair,

- 4. My delegation would like to express its sincere appreciation to all delegations for their constructive and forward-looking engagement during the informal consultations co-led by Italy and Morocco. We commend the spirit of collaboration and openness that has characterized these exchanges, which contributed to a smooth and productive dialogue.
- 5. In this context, my delegation supports the proposal to organize UNISPACE IV, which we believe is both timely and highly relevant. This platform would provide a valuable opportunity to address emerging challenges in the space era, foster inclusive dialogue, and further strengthen international cooperation in support of the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space. We look forward to a positive outcome and a successful recommendation emerging from this session.

6. We also note with appreciation the continued work of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultations, ATLAC, skillfully co-chaired by Mr. Hasan Abbas of Pakistan and Ms. Ulpia Elena Botezatu of Romania. My delegation looks forward to endorsing ATLAC's multi-year work plan and initial list of potential priority topics.

Mr. Chair,

- 7. As part of Morocco's strong engagement in African-led space initiatives, we are pleased to invite you to our side event on 26 June, titled "Celebrating African Space Development," co-organized with UNOOSA.
- 8. This event will highlight the remarkable advancements made across the African continent in space science, technology, and governance. It will shine a spotlight on the continent's growing capabilities in shaping the future of space, with a particular emphasis on building impactful and mutually beneficial partnerships especially with European counterparts. Bringing together distinguished voices from Africa and beyond, the event will provide a vibrant platform for dialogue, collaboration, and exchange. It represents a valuable occasion to celebrate Africa's achievements, foster high-level discussions, and explore new avenues for international cooperation in the spirit of shared progress and global solidarity.

We would be honored by your presence and look forward to broad and meaningful participation in this important gathering.

Mr. Chair,

9. Finally, as Chair of COPUOS, Morocco reaffirms its commitment to guiding this session in the spirit of consensus and inclusive dialogue. We are confident that through collaboration, we can advance the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space for all.