

**68th Session of the
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

Statement by

The Israel Space Agency

Item 3: General Exchange of Views

Vienna, June, 2025

Thank you, Chair.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Director Hola-Maini and the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs for the excellent organization of this session.

As we gather here today, we mark 627 days since the horrific events of October 7th, when the terrorist organization Hamas perpetrated acts of murder, the kidnapping of innocent civilians, and sexual violence. We take this opportunity to call once again for the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining 51 hostages still held in the tunnels of Gaza.

Chair,

Israel's vision for space exploration is anchored in peace, innovation, and international cooperation.

In the field of international cooperation, the Israel Space Agency is proud to partner with CNES on the Cluster for Cloud Evolution, Climate, and Lightning (**C3IEL**) mission. This ambitious project, launched in 2023 and scheduled for deployment in 2027, will significantly enhance global research on climate change and environmental monitoring. It also advances cutting-edge satellite technologies, improving autonomy and reducing operational costs.

This year, Israel also launched the **First International Space Olympics**, in collaboration with the Space Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Azercosmos). This pioneering initiative brought together Israeli and

Azerbaijani students to jointly address scientific and technological challenges related to space. In May, we had the privilege of hosting the winning team of the regional final in Israel, where they competed alongside their Israeli peers.

Over the past year, the Israel Space Agency successfully implemented a project to detect **hazardous asbestos material** from space. Using hyperspectral satellite imaging, the project achieved high-precision identification, significantly supporting environmental protection efforts within Israel.

Another major milestone is the continued progress of **Ultramat**, an advanced scientific satellite equipped with a wide-field ultraviolet telescope, scheduled for launch in 2027. This collaborative initiative includes the Israel Space Agency, NASA, the German research center DESY, and the Weizmann Institute of Science.

As a proud signatory of the **Artemis Accords**, Israel continues its collaboration with NASA to support the safe and sustainable exploration of space. One of our key contributions is the AstroRad radiation protection vest, developed in partnership with DLR and NASA, and successfully tested during the Artemis I mission.

Recognizing the importance of responsible space governance, Israel is currently finalizing its **National Space Legislation**. This framework will define the mandate of the Israel Space Agency, enhance opportunities for international collaboration, and establish a regulatory structure that aligns

with international standards, encouraging both national and commercial space activities.

Israel remains an active participant in international space forums. We are proud to engage in the work of the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, including COPOUS, UN-SPIDER, IAWN, and SMPAG. We are also honored to support the **Space4Women** initiative and look forward to hosting its annual meeting in Israel in 2025.

I thank you chair.