



STATEMENT BY KENYA TO THE FIFTY SEVENTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE (STSC) OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (COPUOS) – THURSDAY 6th FEBRUARY, 2020

Kenya congratulates you **Madam Natalia Archinard** as Chair of the 57th Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (**COPUOS**). We appreciate the manner in which you continue to steer our deliberations, and assure you of our full support.

I take this opportunity to recognize the work and dedication of **Madam Simonetta Di Pippo**, Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (**UNOOSA**). I also distinguish the outgoing Chair **Ms. Pontsho Maruping** of South Africa for her skillful and diligent service to the Sub-Committee and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Madam Chair,

Excellencies and distinguished delegates,

1. Kenya aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of South Africa on behalf of the African Group; as well as the Statement by the Permanent Representative of Egypt on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and I would like to add a few remarks in our national capacity.
2. It is an important achievement to have Rwanda, the Dominican Republic and Singapore join COPUOS as new members. Kenya joins other member States of the Committee in warmly welcoming them to the COPUOS family.
3. The peaceful applications of space science and technology have a central place to contribute to the attainment of national development goals as envisioned in Agenda 2030. For instance, satellite technology has contributed to reliable weather forecasting by the Kenya Meteorological Department. It is also being used by the Kenya Wildlife Service to map out migration routes to avoid human-wildlife conflict, and by the Kenya Forestry Service to monitor Kenya's forests to discourage illegal logging as well as to monitor trends in desertification in order to launch mitigation measures.

Madam Chair,

4. We welcome the Preamble and the 21 guidelines of the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space as adopted by the General Assembly in Resolution 74/82, and the establishment of the Working Group on the same. We look forward to deliberations and concrete outcomes on this



agenda.

5. Kenya continues to make good progress in nurturing her space sector. We are keen to lay a firm foundation to anchor the growth and development of an indigenous space industry in the country. In this respect, a Five-year strategic plan is being developed to guide the process. As a country, we are focused on building human capacity and investment in establishing requisite infrastructure to harness the benefits that accrue from adoption and utilization of space science and technology.
6. The Kenya Space Agency is now fully established. To promote space education and technology, one of the agency's first activities was to host the African Chapter of the International Space Forum in Nairobi, in partnership with the International Astronautical Federation and the Italian Space Agency in 2018. On 11th May of the same year, Kenya was the first country to benefit from the joint initiative by UNOOSA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to support developing countries in the deployment of nanosatellites. The first Kenyan Nanosatellite was deployed into orbit using the Japanese KiboCUBE module from the International Space Station (ISS). These initiatives raised awareness of policy makers on utilization of space science and technology for the benefit of humanity.
7. Building on this momentum, Kenya embarked on developing a critical mass of space scientists in our universities and research institutions through partnerships between the Kenya Space Agency and various space stakeholders. These include;
 - a. The African Initiative for Planetary and Space Sciences, which with other partners hosted the Eastern Africa Global Navigation Satellite Systems and Space Weather Capacity Building Workshop in **May 2019** in Mombasa. The knowledge gained will enhance our understanding of how space weather impacts on our daily lives and technology. The second edition of these series of workshops will take place from 1st to 5th June, 2020 at Pwani University, Mombasa;
 - b. The Kenya Space Agency organized a hands-on satellite development training course from **4th to 8th November, 2019**. The training was offered by UNISEC Global with support from Nihon University, Japan, and was attended by participants from 10 local universities and institutions. The course builds on the legacy of the 1KUNS nanosatellite and is a building block for Kenya's vision to establish a centre for development of microsatellites.
 - c. **On 9th to 13th December, 2019**, the Broglio Space Center (BSC) in



Malindi, Kenya, hosted the inaugural International Training course on Remote Sensing, Space Sciences and Space Policy organized by the Italian Space Agency and Kenya Space Agency, with the support of UNOOSA.

8. In conclusion, we urge stakeholders in space technology to collaborate for the benefit of ALL as envisioned by UNOOSA.

9. **Thank You.**