



INTERVENTION BY KENYA ON THE AGENDA ITEM 6:- SPACE TECHNOLOGY FOR SUITABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DELIVERED AT THE FIFTY SEVENTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE (STSC) OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (COPUOS)

Thank you, **Madam Chair**, for giving my delegation the opportunity to speak on this agenda item.

Space technology has enormous potential to catalyze socioeconomic development, particularly in developing countries. Kenya continues to use Satellite technology to provide critical information that informs decisions in disaster management, farming, conservation and monitoring of natural resources, communication, navigation, among others. This technology continues to offer great potential towards solving problems in developing countries. However, it is noted that developing countries are not using satellite technology to its full potential due to lack of funds, expertise, equipment or awareness.

Kenya, just as most of the countries in Africa, still lags behind in its capacity in Space related disciplines which has resulted in the missing out on opportunities to create jobs and grow our economies. Africa hosts numerous institutions involved in capacity building in the space sector, and one such institution is being proudly hosted by Kenya. This is the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development. We call on stakeholders to support our capacity building initiatives on space, even as, in our own way, strive to create awareness on the potential role of space science and technology in spurring socio-economic development.

Madam Chair, we take this opportunity to appreciate the International Astronautical Federation and UNOOSA, for hosting the Workshop on Space technology for Socioeconomic Benefits, in October 2019 in the United States. This forum, under the theme “ensuring inclusiveness through space-based applications and space exploration”, availed to emerging space countries, such as Kenya, an opportunity to build capacity in the use of space science and technology applications for socio-economic benefits. The discussions and insights, particularly on the linkages



between the 2030 Agenda on sustainable development and space matters were relevant, and put into perspective how we can use space to address challenges that hinder nations from achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In conclusion, **Madam Chair**, Kenya appreciates and reiterates that space science and technology has the potential to ignite technological advancements in developing countries. Such advancements could immensely benefit our region in terms of building the requisite human capacity in space related disciplines, create jobs in the space industry and other support industries, and at the heart of it all, promote the socio-economic development of our continent.

Thank you.