



Statement of the G-77 and China during the Fifty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, 7-18 February 2022, delivered by H.E. Azzeddine Farhane, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Morocco

Vienna, 16th February 2022

AGENDA ITEM 4: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Mr. Chair,

1. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I take this opportunity to express the Group's sincere appreciation to UNOOSA Director Simonetta di Pippo as we bid her farewell after eight years of service.

2. The Group commends the Director for her dedication and valuable contribution towards making space accessible for all, even during the COVID-19 pandemic and despite the limited resources of the Office. Under her exemplary leadership, UNOOSA expanded its partnerships and mobilized resources to secure capacity-building opportunities for developing countries, raised awareness of the contribution of space to sustainable development, and provided valuable support for the work of COPUOS and its Subcommittees. We are likewise pleased to see the membership of COPUOS expand to 100 members during her tenure, which will allow more developing countries to benefit from the peaceful uses of outer space.

3. The Group looks forward to working closely with her successor as we continue to promote the peaceful uses of outer space for sustainable development, advance international cooperation, strengthen the capacity of developing countries in utilizing space applications, and encourage inclusivity and gender equality in the space sector.

4. The Group of 77 and China wish Director di Pippo all the best in her future endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.