

**UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**  
**Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Sixtieth Session**

**Vienna, 06 - 17 February 2023**

**Statement of the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)**

**Agenda item 3: General exchange of views**

**Presented by Marius-Ioan Piso, IAA Vice-President for Scientific Activities**

Distinguished delegates,

Ambassador Juan Francisco Facetti of Paraguay, let me congratulate you, on behalf of the International Academy of Astronautics, on your efficient chairmanship and to transmit to you our support for a successful accomplishment of your mandate. Let me extend congratulations to Niklas Hedman who managed to keep the secretariat functional and efficient. I express our condolences and solidarity with the victims of the strong earthquake in Turkey and Syria,

The International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) was founded in 1960. Under the principle of electing the world's foremost eminent experts in Astronautics for the good of humanity, the IAA is an independent non-governmental organization recognized by the United Nations in 1995.

The IAA is an organization of personalities. Its members are from all over the world, i.e., approximately 1100 member and corresponding members from 90 countries.

Mr Chairman, I am just recalling that the IAA membership consists of individuals who have distinguished themselves in one of the fields of astronautics or one of the branches of science of fundamental importance for the exploration of space. Election to the Academy is a recognition of an individual's record of service and achievement, and members are leaders in space and airspace activities in their own countries. New members are elected by their peers in the Academy; full members are elected for life, while corresponding members are eligible for full membership after two years, but

retire after five year. Membership brings with it the commitment to work with fellow members for the betterment of mankind through the application of the art and science of astronautics.

Mr. Chair, by its mechanism, since six decades, the IAA has brought together the world's foremost experts in the disciplines of astronautics on a regular basis:

- to recognize the accomplishments of their peers,
- to explore and discuss cutting-edge issues in space research and technology, and
- to provide direction and guidance in the non-military uses of space and the ongoing exploration of the solar system.

The IAA is involved in numerous scientific activities. For example, the Academy:

- Encourages international scientific cooperation through conferences, symposia and meetings in the area of: space sciences, space life sciences, space technology & system development, space systems operations & utilization, space policy, law & economy, space & society, culture & education; IAA conducted 29 conferences during the last two years;
- Publishes cosmic studies dealing with a wide variety of topics including space exploration, space debris, small satellites, space traffic management, natural disaster, climate change, etc.; An analysis among 42 recent studies denoted international involvement of 714 experts from 47 countries.
- Publishes the journal of the IAA ACTA ASTRONAUTICA ranked #1 in the world in Astronautics; The impact factor of Acta Astronautica for 2022 is 2.954 compared to 0.6 in 2010. The number of downloads of Acta Astronautica has tripled between 2010 and 2021 with more than 1 million. The number of pages published for 2018 is 7161.
- Publishes dictionaries in 24 languages (last languages Afrikaner and Swahili);
- And Publishes book series on small satellite, conference proceedings, remote sensing and history. I will mention also a new book series on History of Space in addition to the 3 other books series on small satellites, remote sensing and conference proceedings amounted 15 books in two years.

In 2021 the number of IAA regional meetings and standalone conference amounted 15 and in 14 in 2022. The year 2023 is promising with the 9th Annual Space Traffic Management Conference on March 1<sup>st</sup> in Austin, Texas, the 2023 IAA Planetary Defense Conference here in Vienna on 3 April 2023, the IAA Symposium on Lunar Farside Protection on 13 May in Torino, 14th IAA Symposium on Small Satellites for Earth System Observation on May 07 in Berlin, International Conference on Spacecraft Mission Operations with theme of Emerging Technologies and Automation in Space Mission Operation And Ground Segment on 8 June in Bangalore, India, 8<sup>th</sup> Interstellar Symposium on 10 July at Montreal, Canada, 12th IAA Conference on Space Systems as Critical Infrastructures, Mamaia, Romania, 03-04 August, 2023.

In 2022 the Academy contributed to one third of the International Astronautical Congress program in preparing 13 Symposia totaling 893 papers in 62 sessions making the Academy contribution to 35% of the entire congress.

It is my pleasure to announce that the IAA Laurel for Team Achievements for 2022 has been awarded to the team which provided the successful launch and very precise orbital injection of the JWST (James Webb Space Telescope) - ESA, Arianespace, Arianegroup, CNES .

Mr. Chair, it is important to mention that the IAA is committed to further provide to the Committee and the Sub-Committees support, by its Scientific Commissions and Study Groups, its distinguished members covering practically all areas of competence in space.

You can be ensured, Chair, that the International Academy of Astronautics will remain proactive in contributing to the goals and programs that make the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space a very unique organization for the benefit of all nations. I thank you for your attention.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates for your attention.