

Permanent Mission of Italy International Organisations - Vienna

62nd SESSION OF THE

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (STSC)

Statement by Antonino Tedesco

Item 11: Future role and method of work of the Committee

Madame Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Morocco will deliver a joint Statement, also for Italy, under this agenda item later, but allow me to add short remarks on our national capacities.

First of all, after having listened to the Report by the Working Group on Space Resource Activities, we wish to present heartfelt condolences to the family of Amb Andrzej Misztal and to all those who knew him. We are deeply saddened by his passing: Amb Misztal will be sorely missed.

Madame Chair,

As we mentioned in the general exchange of view, Italy welcomes the strong mandate coming from the Pact for the Future for a renewed and strengthened role of COPUOS in addressing the most urgent issues for a safe, peaceful and sustainable use of outer space. We took fully on board also the proposal of holding a fourth United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Exploration of

Outer Space (UNISPACE IV) in 2027. With that goal in mind, we joined Morocco in tabling a CRP to start the discussion with the membership. We thank the delegations that co-sponsored the CRP so far: Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Czeck Republic, France, Latvia, United Kingdom.

We trust that - with the support of all delegations - we can decide already during this Subcommittee to hold UNISPACE IV in 2027 and we look forward to more substantive discussions on the scope and the agenda for the Conference. To that aim, we invite all delegations to submit their ideas, inputs and possible topics, and we thank those who have already provided for very interesting insights and themes: the Group of African Countries, Canada, Costa Rica, France, Iran, Paraguay, Portugal, Turkye, United Kingdom to name a few.

Madame Chairperson,

Let me now turn to the ongoing work of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Coordination; first of all, to congratulate you, Madam Chair, and dear colleague Mr. Hasan Abbas for the nomination as co-chairs of the Action Team. Please count on our full support and constructive engagement in this endeavor.

Italy looks forward to a quick adoption of the workplan for the Action Team, in order to start the substantive discussions and hopefully provide recommendations to COPUOS already in 2027.

Thank you for your attention.