

Portugal Statement Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space | 62nd session

Agenda Item 11, "Future role and method of work of the Committee."

Madam Chair, Distinguished Representatives,

We've heard the thorough report on the Working Group on Space Resource Activities, delivered by Prof. Steven Freeland.

As mentioned earlier in our statement under agenda item 3, we express our sorrow on the passing of co-chair Emb Andrejz Misztal, our neighbour in the room, and a very respected and cherished member of the space community that will be dearly missed.

We remain committed to actively contribute to the WG on legal aspects of space resources and we do look forward to continuing the works as per the approved workplan under the skilled leadership of Prof. Freeland, hoping that the preliminary results will feed a productive and engaged discussion between Member States.

We were one the delegations co-sponsoring the CRP that proposed Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC). We do find that the current informal consultations are at a good pace and, again, we congratulate Romania and Pakistan for co-chairing this Action Team and look forward for the advancement of our works within this so importance mechanism.

As expressed int the Conference Room Paper of Morroco and Italy, 2027 appears to be a pivotal year as it marks the 70th session of COPUOS, 60th anniversary of the OST, and would allow for follow-up on the Pact for the Future, which called on COPUOS to address space traffic, space debris, and space resources. We support the general opportunity of Unisapce IV, also as a catalyst for the UN system and for the advancement of concrete coordination mechanisms amongst Member States and concrete space governance frameworks, having in mind the need of streamlined works and priorities.

Thank you, Madam Chair.