



**STATEMENT BY SOUTH AFRICA**

**THE 62<sup>nd</sup> SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF  
THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE**

**AGENDA ITEM 11**

**FUTURE WORK AND METHOD OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

**3- 14 February 2025**

**Delivered by Ms Pragashnie Adurthy**

## **Thank you, Madam Chair**

South Africa extends its sincere appreciation to Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini for her outstanding leadership in elevating the work of COPUOS and its two subcommittees. The recognition of space for sustainable development in the Pact for the Future is a testament to the growing acknowledgment of space technologies as indispensable tools for development. This milestone reinforces our collective responsibility to harness space for the benefit of all people.

We also take this opportunity to warmly welcome Ms. Takemi Chiku to OOSA and look forward to her contributions in advancing the sub-committee's important mandate.

Furthermore, we join other delegations in commending the improvements in streamlining the agenda and enhancing the efficiency of our meetings. While these strides are commendable, we firmly believe that there is room for further improvement to ensure that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) remains fully aligned with the evolving priorities and concerns of its members.

## **Madam Chair,**

South Africa strongly supports the proposal to convene the UNISPACE IV conference in 2027. We extend our appreciation to Morocco and Italy for their comprehensive CRP, which provides an excellent framework for holding discussions on the scope and format of this important conference. UNISPACE IV comes at a crucial moment, as the global space landscape has transformed significantly over the past 25 years. The rise of new space actors particularly from the developing world, highlights the need for a more inclusive approach to space governance and cooperation.

It is imperative that developing countries are not only included but fully empowered to become responsible and active participants in the space sector. In this regard, Africa's full participation in the space sector must be recognized as a global priority. Africa cannot afford to be left behind in the rapidly advancing space economy.

This requires dedicated support, capacity-building initiatives, and, where appropriate, the transfer of technology to foster equitable access to space resources.

Finally, we extend our congratulations to Romania and Pakistan on their appointment as co-chairs of ATLAC. We wish them success as they finalize the workplan to address key issues and drive forward meaningful outcomes.

Thank you.