

Canada
Agenda Item 3 – General Exchange of Views
Delivered by: *Angela Veitch, Deputy Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna, Permanent Mission of Canada in Vienna*

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Sixty-second session, Vienna, February 3 – February 14, 2025

Chair, distinguished delegates,

Le Canada remercie Mme Ulpia Elena Botezatu, de la Roumanie, pour le travail remarquable qu'elle a accompli en tant que présidente de la dernière réunion du Sous-Comité. Nous reconnaissons l'apport du Bureau des affaires spatiales de l'Organisation des Nations Unies qui a travaillé inlassablement à l'organisation de cette réunion et nous vous assurons de la collaboration pleine et constructive du Canada en vue d'un résultat fructueux. Nous exprimons également notre gratitude envers le Kenya qui a accueilli avec succès la 5e réunion d'experts « L'espace pour les femmes » à Nairobi en novembre 2024. Le Canada a fièrement participé à cet événement inspirant et se réjouit à l'idée de poursuivre nos efforts collectifs pour accroître la diversité dans le secteur spatial.

En 2025, nous sommes heureux d'annoncer que le Canada sera l'hôte de la conférence SpaceOps 2025 du 26 au 30 mai. Le thème de l'événement est « vers la durabilité dans le domaine spatial » et nous encourageons toutes les délégations à assister à cet événement majeur. Nous encourageons également la présence d'étudiants et de jeunes professionnels, y compris des représentants du Space Generation Advisory Council, car la puissance humaine de demain sera également un thème important.

En 2024, le Canada a présidé le Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) qui était axé sur la sauvegarde de la biodiversité de la planète grâce aux satellites d'observation de la Terre. La réunion plénière du CEOS, organisée par l'Agence spatiale

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canadienne (ASC) en octobre, a souligné 40 ans de collaboration internationale et de coordination des programmes civils d'observation de la Terre par satellite et d'échange de données. Nous tenons à remercier tous les États qui ont contribué au succès de cet événement, notamment par la création d'une équipe d'étude de la biodiversité pour informer le CEOS sur la manière de mieux façonner les activités liées à la biodiversité.

In 2024, Canada was also pleased to host the 2nd Workshop of Artemis Accords signatories and welcome signatories to CSA Headquarters as well as co-host the Principals Meeting in October alongside NASA and ASI. The Artemis Accords Signatories are committed to transparency as outlined in Section 4 of the Artemis Accords. This year, we have shared a summary of the discussions held in 2024 to support the implementation of the Artemis Accords principles, with UN COPUOS which is found at [A/CRP XX](#).

Chair,

Satellites play an essential role in our everyday lives and Earth observation remains central to the Canadian space program. In 2024, CSA secured funding to design and develop a replenishment satellite for the RADARSAT Constellation Mission (RCM) and to design a next-generation satellite system to succeed it. RCM is crucial for monitoring climate change and mitigating its impacts on the environment, promoting sustainable development and supporting disaster relief in Canada and around the world.

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Last year, Canada allocated funding to the Lunar Exploration Accelerator Program to diversify and advance Canadian expertise in remote healthcare and food production technologies. A range of CSA-led initiatives will advance technologies that will enable astronauts in deep space to access safe and healthy food and remote healthcare. These solutions can be further adapted to serve Canadians in remote and isolated communities. In February 2024, the CSA and Impact Canada concluded the Deep Space Healthcare Challenge. The winning project, the EZResus application, will enable access to the vital information needed by emergency personnel in the critical first hour of resuscitation. In collaboration with NASA, we also concluded the Deep Space Food Challenge. The Canadian winner uses an innovative approach to produce a diverse range of fresh foods with the CANGrow solution – an indoor food production system with the potential to generate over 700 kg of nutrient-dense food annually, which will maximize the yield of high-quality protein sources with minimal resources.

As part of Canada's commitment to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in the space sector, the CSA is collaborating with organizations serving youth from communities historically underrepresented in space STEM fields. For instance, a prototype Lunar Adventure Kit was developed in collaboration with the input from nine communities in Nunavut, in Northern Canada, and includes learning resources in the local language (Inuktitut), alongside culturally relevant references to Arctic food sources and plants for future astronauts on the Moon.

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Chair,

It remains extremely concerning that our session once again takes place against the backdrop of during Russia's illegal war of aggression of Ukraine, which violates international law and the UN Charter. Russia's direct and egregious attacks on Ukraine's critical civilian infrastructure, such as energy and communications grid facilities, continue to have devastating consequences and prevent Ukrainian civilians from accessing essential space services on which they depend. As we have repeatedly stated, Russia's actions directly undermine global peace and security as well as international law and run contrary to our collective efforts to advance the peaceful uses of outer space.

As space capabilities become increasingly well-understood as intrinsic to so many aspects of life on Earth, we must continue to work together to find solutions to keep space activities sustainable over the long term and for the benefit of all.

Thank you.