



January 2025

**International Astronautical Federation, Item 3**

**United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space  
62<sup>nd</sup> Session of its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

**Vienna, Austria – 3 to 14 February 2025**

**Statement of the  
International Astronautical Federation (IAF)**

Chair,  
Excellencies – Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the International Astronautical Federation, I would like to express our gratitude to Director Holla-Maini for her ongoing leadership and support to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. We wish to warmly welcome and acknowledge the hard work of the Chair of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, Ms. Ulpia-Elena Botezatu and thank her for her leadership in steering a productive session that tackles many important issues. We assure you and the members of the Subcommittee of our full support during this session.

As the IAF Vice President for Relations with International Organizations, I am pleased to report to you our last year's achievements and briefly outline the IAF's upcoming activities for this year and the future.

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud to share how the IAF continues to evolve alongside the expanding global space community. We are delighted to welcome 73 new member organizations, bringing our total membership to 563 organizations from 81 countries and highlighting our position as the most diverse space advocacy body worldwide and unparalleled leader in "Connecting @ll Space People". This remarkable growth underscores our shared commitment to advancing collaboration across the space sector.

Throughout last year, the IAF has hosted an array of impactful events, demonstrating the diversity of our activities and the strength of our community, from the International Space Forum in Bahrain, hosted by our distinguished Member the Bahrain National Space Agency and culminating in the record-breaking 75<sup>th</sup> International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Milan, in cooperation with our Members AIDAA, ASI and Leonardo.

The 75<sup>th</sup> IAC edition reached unprecedented heights, drawing over 11,200 participants from 120 countries. Making it not only the largest IAC ever but also one of the most diverse gatherings of space people in our galaxy.



## INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION

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The inaugural IAF Global Space Leaders' Summit was organized by the IAF on 15 October 2024 during the 75<sup>th</sup> IAC in Milan. The International Astronautical Federation made history by bringing together the largest group of space leaders represented by 60 heads of space agencies and offices from all over the world.

The theme of this summit - *"Space Capabilities for Sustainability on Earth"* - highlighted the critical role space technology plays in safeguarding our planet for future generations. This landmark event provided a unique opportunity for global space leaders to unite and discuss critical issues in a cooperative spirit.

UNOOSA, IAF and ASI co-organized the 31<sup>st</sup> UN/IAF Workshop and had jointly selected the theme "Space sustainability as a game changer for development", which was aligned with the theme of the 75<sup>th</sup> IAC, namely, "Responsible Space for Sustainability". In total, 192 individuals from 75 countries attended the Workshop in person, which was the highest number of participants recorded for the event series.

Looking ahead, 2025 promises to be an exciting year for the IAF. In May, we warmly invite you together with our distinguished Member the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to join us for the Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2025) from 7 - 9 May in New Delhi, India. GLEX 2025 will provide a unique platform to share insights on space exploration policies, programmes, and challenges, with a record-breaking interest for an IAF Global Conference resulting in 1,275 abstracts submitted from 57 countries.

Later in the year, the IAF invites you together with its Member, the Space Industry Association of Australia (SIAA) to convene in Sydney, Australia, for the 76<sup>th</sup> International Astronautical Congress from 29 September to 3 October 2025. Under the theme "Sustainable Space: Resilient Earth," IAC 2025 will explore critical topics, including sustainable space activities, Earth-focused applications, and humanity's future in space. This IAC will particularly highlight advancements in the Asia-Pacific region, promising an unforgettable experience in one of the world's most iconic cities.

With the Turkish Space Agency, we are tackling the preparations for the 77<sup>th</sup> IAC in 2026 in Antalya. After 60 years, the IAC will return to Poland in 2027 and will take place in the city of Poznań. Preparations are also well under way.

Ms Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present main activities and plans of the International Astronautical Federation to the Subcommittee.

Thank you all for your attention.

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