

**62nd Session of the
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

Statement by

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Item 3: General Exchange of Views

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Thank you, Chair.

It is an honor to address the distinguished members of the sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). I extend my gratitude to Director Maini and the secretariat for their excellent organization of this session.

Israel deeply values this platform as a cornerstone for advancing scientific and technical cooperation while ensuring the peaceful use of outer space, and we remain steadfastly committed to its objectives.

As we convene, it has been 488 days since October 7th, when the terrorist organization Hamas carried out horrific acts of murder, kidnapping of innocent Israeli civilians and sexual violence. Last month, Israel began the ceasefire process with Hamas, leading to the release of some hostages. However, many remain in captivity. We take this opportunity to call for the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining hostages.

Chair,

Israel is committed to the peaceful use of outer space, aligning its national interests with this fundamental goal. In pursuit of this vision, Israel actively promotes space science, develops its local space ecosystem, advances space education, and engages in space diplomacy, all while fully respecting international law and maintaining a long-standing commitment to space safety and sustainability.

In the realm of space science and international collaboration, the Israel Space Agency has partnered with CNES on the **Cluster for Cloud Evolution, Climate, and Lightning (C3IEL)** project. This pioneering initiative will make a significant contribution to climate change research and environmental monitoring, while also advancing innovative satellite technologies that enhance autonomy and reduce operational costs. The project started last year and is scheduled to be launched into space in 2027.

Additionally, The Israel Space Agency is proud to launch the **First International Space Olympics** this year, in collaboration with the Space Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Azercosmos). This initiative brings together Israeli and Azerbaijani kids to tackle space-related scientific and technological challenges. It not only strengthens the bond between our space agencies but also promotes STEM education and inspires the next generation of global space leaders.

As part of the effort to implement uses of space technology in the various state entities, the space agency worked last year to implement a project to identify from space the dangerous substance asbestos. This successful project enabled us to identify asbestos through the use of hyperspectral satellite imaging with high precision, thus significantly assisting the environmental protection bodies in Israel.

Significant progress has also been made on the **Ultraset** project, a cutting-edge scientific satellite equipped with a wide-field ultraviolet telescope. Set for launch in 2027, Ultraset is a collaboration between the Israel Space Agency, NASA, the German research center DESY, and the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Israel remains a proud signatory of the **Artemis Accords**, and we actively collaborate with NASA to integrate Israeli technology and expertise into Artemis missions, ensuring safe and sustainable exploration of space. Notable

contributions include the AstroRad next-generation radiation vest, developed with DLR and NASA, which was successfully tested during the Artemis I mission.

Recognizing the importance of robust governance in space activities, Israel is finalizing its **National Space Legislation**. This framework will define the objectives and responsibilities of the Israel Space Agency, bolster international collaboration, and establish regulatory standards that align with global norms, fostering both national and commercial opportunities.

Israel will continue to be an active player at the UN Office of Outer Space, participating in the meetings of COPOUS, as well as being represented in UN-SPIDER, IAWN and SMPAG. We are also proud to support **Space4Women**, agreeing to host its annual meeting in Israel in 2025.

In conclusion, Chair,

I wish to express Israel's gratitude to the members of this esteemed Subcommittee for their unwavering dedication to advancing the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. Together, we can continue to leverage the potential of space to address humanity's greatest challenges.

Thank you for your attention.