



STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**61st SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE**

AGENDA ITEM 6:

SPACE SYSTEMS-BASED DISASTER MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Madam Chair

Distinguished Delegates

At the backdrop of the 67th Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, South Africa through our National Space Agency, SANSA, officially signed the UNSPIDER Regional Support Office Hosting Arrangement. In this regard SANSA and South Africa's National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), in partnership with UN-SPIDER, shall be conducting trainings and country specific expert missions in the SADC region. South Africa is honoured to announce that in September 2025 we are scheduled to host the next UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER Project Manager (PM) training for the International Charter Space and Major Disasters.

Madam Chair

My delegation would like to report that SANSA in partnership with the South African Weather Service (SAWS) and our national Water Research Council (WRC) is developing a web-based application to support the South African government in the efficient and effective management of floods in the country. To this end engagements with relevant government departments are underway.

Madam Chair

South Africa is also faced with major sinkhole and subsidence occurrences predominantly in the Gauteng Province. These occurrences are common in areas underlain by dolomite and pose a huge risk to infrastructure. In this regard, SANSA in partnership with the South African's Council for Geoscience is exploring how our government could be supported in mitigating sinkhole disasters using space applications and technology.

In conclusion Madam Chair

South Africa appreciates the collective efforts of Member States and UNOOSA in advocating for the use of satellite data and advanced space methods in developing national disaster preparedness and response mechanisms.

Thank you.