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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 8: SPACE WEATHER

By Ms Asanda Ntisana

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Madam Chair

South Africa continues to actively participate and contribute to global space weather efforts as led by the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), the International Space Environment Services (ISES) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). South Africa values all national, regional, and global partnerships as they have enabled us to develop a national space weather capability within a reasonably short space of time. Furthermore South Africa remains dedicated to leading space weather development on the African continent through the African Regional Office of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Chair,

My delegation is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Mpho Tshisaphungo as the Vice-Chair representative of the Expert Team on Space Weather (ET-SWx) within the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). This team has been established to coordinate with relevant WMO bodies, the development of WMO Technical Regulations and guidance and other relevant documents on all aspects related to space weather.

Furthermore, my delegation is pleased to report participation at the “28th Meeting of the MET Panel Working Group on MET Operations Groups (WG-MOG) – SWX Work Stream” forming part of discussions on the progress made by the Regional Space Weather Centre Integration Ad Hoc Group. The group has commenced with preparations for the integration process that is anticipated to be completed by mid-year of 2025, whereafter the Regional Space Weather Centres, including ours, will form

part of the ICAO SWX information services supporting all the global centers.

Madam Chair,

In closing, South Africa in partnership with other African states remains committed to the provision of space weather information services to our continent and we are confident that our collective contribution will assist in addressing global space weather challenges.

Thank you.