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High-Level Segment Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Outer Space Vienna, 20 June 2018

Statement by Academician Sergei Kilin Vice-Chairman of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus

Madam President,

The Republic of Belarus supports all initiatives of the United Nations Organization in the field of the exploration and use of space for peaceful purposes.

At present the Republic of Belarus has 2 space vehicles in the orbit. One of them – Belarusian Space Vehicle, has been launched in 2012. It deals with the Earth remote sensing. The second one, Belintersat, has been in the orbit since 2016 and is the telecommunications space vehicle.

At the current time the needs of the Republic of Belarus in space images of 2 m spatial resolution are fully met. There is BSV free resource that we would like to offer to the consumers from other countries.

The national demands in telecommunication services are also fully met. We have free resources for the interested customers.

High-tech Technologies and Equipment State Program of 2016-2020 is implemented in the Republic of Belarus. Subprogram 7 "Exploration and Use of Space for Peaceful Purposes" is its part. The Earth remote sensing space vehicle with the spatial resolution higher than 1 m is designed under Subprogram 7.

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 8 dated December 21, 2017 "On Development of Digital Economy" establishes the environment for the introduction of transaction blocks register (block chain) technology to the state economy on the basis of the distribution, decentralization, and security of transactions conducted using this technology; provides some benefits and preferences for the partners related to the application of the state-

of-the-art technologies; makes provisions focused on the improvement of legal security of partners related to the application of modern financial technologies.

According to the Decree the Republic of Belarus establishes the special legal structure of the Belarusian Hi-Tech Park preserving the exterritoriality for the development of the innovative area and establishment of the modern digital economy till January 1, 2049. High-Tech Park business entities (residents) are enabled to implement investment, as well as space projects using block chain technologies. They are also entitled to carry out educational activities in the field of information and communication technologies, activities in e-sports area, artificial intelligence, design of hands-off driving systems, and other activities specified in High-Tech Park Statute.

We invite all interested partners to the Republic of Belarus for the implementation of breakthrough investment projects in the field of exploration and use of space for peaceful purposes.

The Republic of Belarus attaches great importance to the training of young specialists willing to devote themselves to researches in the field of space technologies. The Belarusian State University has Aerospace Education Center training mainly students of engineering fields related to space. Student Earth remote sensing space vehicle based on CubeSat technology has been designed and tested in the Center. Now the decision on its orbital launching is pending. The modern training courses for training of space specialists are developed under Subprogram 7. Various international projects are implemented under Horizon-2020 European Program.

On September 9-15, 2018 Minsk will host the 31rd Planetary Congress of the Association of Space Explorers. According to preliminary estimates more than 100 spacemen and astronauts from all over the world will participate in this Congress. On this occasion let me invite all interested organizations to participate in this event. For detailed information on Congress visit its web-site.

In conclusion let me express confidence that this High-Level Meeting will strengthen our cooperation and increase the capacity of our collective action. We believe that this dialogue will result in a more effective and more efficient action.

Thank you, Madam President.