

WORLD SPACE WEEK ASSOCIATION
Agenda Item no. 5
Presented by: Maruška Strah, Executive Director

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

We want to thank the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and Mr. Acting Director for their support and organization of this meeting. We would also like to congratulate Mr. Chair on his election and congratulate both Vice-Chairs. We are grateful that we are able to participate here in person and we are looking forward to fruitful discussions. In the Association, we are committed to promote the great work of this Committee and are committed to contributing to the work it has been doing throughout the years.

It is a great honor for me to speak on behalf of the World Space Week Association. Annual World Space Week, declared by the General Assembly to be every year from 4th to 10th of October has been only possible because of the support of Member States and the Committee. This year is especially important for us because of the 55th Anniversary of the signing of the Outer Space Treaty. As a matter of fact, this important date, October 10th, marks the end of the annual World Space Week.



After an exceptionally successful World Space Week 2021 under the theme “Women in Space”, we are preparing for World Space Week 2022 with full speed. This October 4 - 10, we will be celebrating “Space and Sustainability”. We want to invite all Member States and all Permanent Observers to join us in the celebration of World Space Week this October. We are looking forward to enter individual discussions with all of you in order to make this World Space Week even more successful. We are counting on your invaluable support and participation in the largest space event on Earth.

I would like to extend special thanks to our 2022 Honorary Chair Mr. Nobu Okada, Founder and CEO of Astroscale for his guidance and incredible support of World Space Week. We are confident that all participants of World Space Week will benefit significantly from his involvement and are looking forward to seeing the outcomes of World Space Week.

The 2022 World Space Week Theme: Space And Sustainability

So where to next?

I wish to stress that we remain committed to supporting women in the space sector and welcome activities and initiatives supporting gender equality.

Our goal for 2022 is to address “Space and Sustainability” from two angles - we want to bring more awareness to the importance of long-term sustainability of space activities. On the other hand, we want to address how space technologies and applications are contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. We will acknowledge and focus on how space



science, technologies and applications are directly contributing to achieving a safer, cleaner and fairer planet Earth. This theme perfectly embodies our commitments to achieving SDGs. We will also show our dedication to this theme through our special programs that we initiated in the previous year.

We would like to congratulate and thank UNOOSA for the great work they have done on the recently published report on awareness raising and capacity building related to the implementation of the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. We are looking forward to supporting capacity building and outreach activities of all Member States and we are confident that outcomes of the World Space Week and the 2022 theme “Space and Sustainability” will positively contribute to the work of the Committee, especially regarding capacity building and awareness raising when it comes to the long-term sustainability of the outer space environment.

I thank you, Mr. Chair, and distinguished delegates, for your attention. I am looking forward to celebrate World Space Week 2022 with all of you, under the theme “Space and Sustainability”.

