

## **AFRICA GROUP STATEMENT ON THE FUTURE WORK OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE**

### **Chair**

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Africa Group's views on the future work of the subcommittee.

- The Group supports the subcommittee returning to in-person participation consecutively to facilitate more constructive discussions, ensure progress in meetings in an orderly and predictable manner and at greater cost efficiency.
- With respect to the expansion of the membership and growth of non-governmental organisations in COPUOS and its subcommittees, the Group fully supports better time management on the length of statements to give room to all to share their views on this important portfolio.
- The Group is grateful for the efforts to ensure inclusivity and constructive exchanges at the meetings of the Working Groups and during the Plenary, on account of the sufficient time and the benefit of interpretation services in all six UN languages to all delegations.
- The Group also supports mainstreaming the agenda to ensure that we make maximum benefit of our time during the session to avoid needless overlap and duplication of thematic discussions.
- The Group, therefore, wishes to propose that consideration be given to merging agenda items: 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures 13. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management and 14: General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities.
- The Group is grateful for the side-events which actively seek to exchange information and equip developing countries and emerging space actors with capacity in the area. We would like to encourage the holding of such events, especially for countries to share their experiences related to space law.
- To conclude, the Group calls for greater efforts to create synergy between the STSC and LSC on complementary issues.

I thank you.