

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for giving me the floor

On behalf of the government of the State of Israel, I am honored to address the Fifty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in my capacity as the Director of the Israel Space Agency.

I would like once more to congratulate you Madam chair on assuming the position of chair of the STSC

We also would like to welcome the three new members of the committee: the Dominican Republic, Rwanda and Singapore and wish them a fruitful first STSC session.

Our special appreciation to UNOOSA Director, Simonetta Di Pippo and to the Chair of COPUOS, Mr. André João Ryppl , for their leadership and vision.

In this statement I will concentrate on the Israeli activity

Madam Chair,

A new decade had just begun, and we are expecting that it will be an exiting decade for the Israeli Space community as well as for the world space community.

Last week we got the first pictures from the ASTRORAD – the Israeli Radiation Protection vest which was unloaded in the ISS. This vest was designed by an Israeli startup called STEMRAD together with

Lockheed Martin and it has a unique technology to protect astronauts from radiation caused by solar storms. The purpose of these tests on the ISS is to check its ergonomics with the astronauts working on the ISS, while its radiation protection effectiveness will be tested on the Artemis 1 mission with the Matrushka Astrorade Radiation Experiment MARE conducted in cooperation with NASA and the DLR. This is an excellent example of how small nations with unique technologies can contribute to huge programs such as the ARTEMIS.

Madam Chair,

Last week we have celebrated the Israeli space week, which commemorates the STS107 crew and among them Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli astronaut. During this week tens of thousands of people joined educational activities for the young generation and outreach activities to the general public, 5 astronauts gave tens of inspiring presentations.

Apart of this activity, during this week we held the 15th Ilan Ramon International Space conference under the theme of "predicting the next decade in space" more than 600 participants from all over the world joined this conference with vibrant participation of, heads of space agencies, chief executives and top academics. They discussed the next decade prospect, and the role and share of

governments, academic, industries and private investors in that activity.

Adjacent to the space week an inspiring seven days 'Space of Entrepreneurs' workshop was organized by ISA in coordination with the European Space Agency ESA. Just to demonstrate the importance of such an event, from the 2019 event 3 startups were created.

Last and not least, we had a one day conference for educators, inspiring the educators is a power multiplier for the educational efforts.

Join us next year, it is an **international** event.

Madam Chair, Distinguished delegates,

The year of 2019 was a remarkable one for Israel's efforts in space exploration.

Beresheet, the Israeli moon lander of SPACEIL, the first non governmental organization which have a small innovative lunar lander has been launched, and even if it was not able to land on the moon in a soft way, most of the goals of the project were achieved. The influence of Beresheet and its effect on the eco-system, on the public and especially on the young generation was very impressive. At present, Israel considers to try it again.

Just recently we initiated the design and development of a breakthrough transient UV mission, the ULTRASAT program, with a multinational cooperation scheme, this

satellite is aiming to explore UV Transient phenomena especially those created by post effects of gravitational waves and supernovas.

This year we will supply the Ultra Stable Oscillator to ASI. This instrument is part of the JUICE mission, which is the flagship of ESA, going to Jupiter.

Madam Chair,

Israel continues to foster its external relations and appreciates the COPUOS and the UNOOSA support.

Next Month four experiments jointly executed by Italian and Israeli researchers to study the effects of microgravity on various chemical, physical, biochemical and biological processes will be launched on VEGA launcher on a nanosatellite manufactured by the Israeli company Space Pharma enabling autonomous microgravity experiment in space.

The Venus satellite, which is a cooperative scientific earth observation mission between ISA and CNES is continue to deliver images with high resolution, excellent photometric quality in 12 bands and 2 days revisit time to 125 sites around the globe. Precise agriculture, water quality and other environmental parameters studies are conducted with its results. We have decided with our French colleagues to extend the mission by two additional years.

The SHALOM Project between Israel and Italy which is the most advanced hyperspectral mission is planned to launch its full scale development shortly.

Comprehensive collaboration in exploration is done cooperatively with NASA.

We are initiating technological cooperation with the Indian Space Research Organization ISRO, and we are continuously discussing with many other agencies looking for new cooperation opportunities.

Madam Chair,

Israel and its space agency are continuously supporting fostering activities that empower young girls and women to join the space activity.

The foundation of WIspace (Women In Space) a new NGO that's creates platforms to women in this area, was just recently announced during the Ilan Ramon international space conference.

The "she space" is a program that was built to inspire young girls to STEM studies, by exposing them to advance scientific disciplines, including active research.

Due to its success this year the program progressed to be She-Space international with participation of students from Germany, Brazil and the United States.

Next week during the special event on the 11th Dr. Shimrit Maman will elaborate on that.

Madam Chair,

In November 2020, we will have Mars Analog mission in Israel performed by the Austrian forum. This mission will be comprehensively presented to you, At on June session

The Technion's Asher Space Research Institute in Haifa, Israel, will launch its Adelis-SAMSON nanosatellite project which will demonstrate formation flight of 3 6 U nanosatellite.

This year twin Tel Aviv University Nanosatellites for monitoring radiation and heavy particles in low earth orbit will be launched.

In addition, we have decided with Space Florida to promote a joint call for proposal for cooperation of universities from both sides dealing with remote sensing application.

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

As I have mentioned before we are supporting the growth of the eco-system in general and the startups in particular.

But not only the upstream, many downstream startups are very active in Israel in communication as well as in remote sensing, one of them – UTILS was presented to you yesterday.

Madam Chair

Last but not least I am pleased to inform you about our intention to participate in the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN) in order to assist its highly important activities and support the work of the COPUOS. The Israel Space Agency is funding an astronomical research for characterization of Near-Earth Asteroids (NEAs), to be performed by researchers at the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Madam Chair

Thank you for your kind attention.