58th Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

19-30 April 2021

Statement of Italy

Agenda Item 10. Space Weather

Madame Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

The Heliophysics and Planetary Science communities in Italy are involved in several observational campaigns from space and from the ground related to Space Weather, often with lead roles.

The Italian Space Agency (ASI) participates in several science missions with objectives related to the understanding of the physical phenomena determining Space Weather in the circumterrestrial and/or the circumplanetary space.

In 2020, the Italian Space Weather Working Group headed by ASI presented, in a dedicated article (reference: DOI: 10.1051/swsc/2020003), some ideas on a long-term plan for the support of scientific research in the field of Space Weather. In the context of such plan, ASI aims to create a prototype of a national scientific Space Weather data centre (denominated ASPIS) in order to encourage synergies and collaborations between different teams with a specific interest in Space Weather and to trigger innovation and new mission concept development. The project is currently in its implementation phase.

Madame Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

ASI has been participating in the COSPAR Panel on Space Weather¹ since 2020, providing expert knowledge on the variability of the solar, heliospheric, magnetospheric, ionospheric, and atmospheric environments, on Earth and other planets, aiming also at the development of forecasting techniques for potential technological or biological impacts. In this context, ASI participates also in the coordination of an active network of topical scientific action teams dedicated to new scientific advances and emerging societal requirements².

Thank you for your kind attention.

¹<u>https://cosparhq.cnes.fr/scientific-structure/panels/panel-on-space-weather-psw/</u>

² <u>https://iswat-cospar.org/</u>