DRAFT PHILIPPINE STATEMENT

Fifty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, 7-18 February 2022

Agenda 4: General Exchange of Views / Tribute Messages for Director di Pippo

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

The Philippines aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Ambassador of Morocco on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and would like to issue the following remarks in its national capacity.

We wish to express our warm appreciation to Director Simonetta di Pippo, for her strong commitment to making space accessible to all, for promoting the peaceful uses of outer space to support development and address climate change, and for being a champion of gender equality in the space sector. Her eight years of dedicated service was marked by increasing global awareness of the benefits of outer space, as well as enhanced international cooperation in harnessing space applications to address the most pressing challenges of our time.

We welcome the strengthened engagement between the Philippines and the Office for Outer Space Affairs during her term, highlighted by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding last year. We look forward to continuing this productive cooperation with her successor.

In closing, Mr Chair, the Philippines wishes the Director good health and continued success in her next role.

Thank you very much.

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