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United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

**59th Session of COPUOS STSC
7 – 18 February 2022**

Statement of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)

**Honorable Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,**

It is an honor for me to address the fifty-ninth session of the COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in my capacity as President of the International Astronautical Federation.

Distinguished Delegates,

This past year was without a doubt full of challenges, but also full of great opportunities to celebrate the legacy of the International Astronautical Federation, at the occasion of its 70-years anniversary. The IAF Community showed once again its resilience and was able to meet again in person on several occasions. Please allow me to briefly highlight some of the IAF's recent activities and give you an outlook on some of our upcoming events:

After the great success of the Global Space Exploration Conference – GLEX 2021, held in St. Petersburg and organized in cooperation with ROSCOSMOS, the IAF took up another exciting challenge: hosting the annual International Astronautical Congress – IAC, in Dubai, UAE from 25 to 29 October 2021.

The 72nd International Astronautical Congress, hosted by the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Center (MBRSC) was a great success and was the first IAC to be held in the Arab region, leaving a long lasting legacy for both the IAF and the country.



Gathering in Dubai more than 5000 delegates from 110 countries, and 1500 additional participants during the Public Day, the world's premier global space event, exceeded every expectation with an incredible programme under the theme: '*Inspire, Innovate and Discover for the Benefit of Humankind*'. During this IAC, the IAF General Assembly took some important decisions, and elected its Incoming President, Mr. Clay Mowry, Chief Revenue Officer at Voyager Space Holdings, - who will be taking over my role at the closing ceremony of the IAC 2022 in Paris - and also selected Milan, Italy as the host country for the IAC in 2024.

Distinguished delegates,

The IAF invites you to Save the Date for the upcoming 73rd International Astronautical Congress, that will take place in Paris, France, from 18 to 22 September 2022 under the theme "Space for @ll". Organized by the IAF and hosted by the Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), this IAC will set the record for the beautiful city of Paris being the city with the highest number of IACs hosted: the first ever Congress in 1950, then in 1963 in 1982, and now, in 2022.

With the theme "Space for @ll" we would like to make this IAC an outstanding occasion to bring together all space communities, alongside the rapidly increasing global ecosystem and start-ups, entrepreneurs, laboratories, research scientists and manufacturers that could get involved in space activities or benefit from them. Special attention will be paid to students and young professionals, who will be closely associated through dedicated events.

Finally, the general public will not be forgotten, as space-themed conferences and exhibitions will accompany the entire IAC week.

As per tradition, the IAF, together with UNOOSA and CNES are currently working on the 29th edition of the Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits that will be held in conjunction with, and as an associated event of the 73rd IAC from 15 to 17 September 2022.



On behalf of the Federation, we look forward to welcoming you in Paris in September!

The IAF will also organize the IAF Global Conference on Space for Emerging Countries (GLEC 2022) hosted by the Sideralis Foundation in Quito, Ecuador, from 16 to 20 May 2022.

Following its mission to promote international development, the IAF and the Sideralis Foundation are committed to fostering and supporting the international relations that allow space faring nations and space developing nations to share knowledge, practices and data about space activities and their concrete social benefits.

As the second Conference of its kind, GLEC 2022 is designed to:

- Creating awareness on the essential legislative and policy elements that must be considered in establishing a firm foundation for national or regional space programs;**
- Promoting the creation and development of a local space industry that is innovative, responsive, robust, commercially viable, and connected and integrated to the global space industry;**
- Highlighting the socio-economic benefits of space applications so that high-level citizen support can be secured for advancing national or regional space programs.**

The Conference programme is designed to bring together the international community, including senior representatives of the major space agencies, industry, governments, policy makers, academia and NGOs. Please visit our website for any additional information regarding GLEC 2022, and we look forward to welcoming you in Quito, Ecuador.

Honorable Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the International Astronautical Federation, let me thank you for your attention. We hope to welcome you at our upcoming events!