

# **SPEECH FOR STSC (7-18 FEBRUARY 2022) MEETING**

## **UNOOSA-PSIPW Joint Activities**

### **Ali-Wafa Abu-Risheh, PSIPW Executive Director**

#### **Slide 1:**

Mr. Chairman, Esteemed Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

First, I would like to congratulate Mr. Chairman for his election and wish him all the best.

I would also like to wish the UNOOSA Director, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, the greatest success in all of her future endeavours. She will be missed. We at PSIPW have enjoyed the many wonderful and rewarding years we have had working together with her.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to present to you the main activities The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (PSIPW) carried out together during the past year. In addition to, the forthcoming activities they will carry on this year.

#### **Slide 2:**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, UNOOSA and PSIPW expanded and renewed their Memorandum of Understanding for another six years. Based on this agreement the Space4water portal was further developed in 2021, and will continue to do so in the forthcoming years.

#### **Slide 3:**

UNOOSA and the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia at the United Nations co-organised virtually the 9<sup>th</sup> Award ceremony event with PSIPW. This event was held under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 in conjunction with the “High-Level Meeting of the Water-Related Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda” at the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York.

**Slide 4:**

High UN officials spoke at the 9<sup>th</sup> PSIPW Awarding ceremony: His Excellency UN Secretary-General António Guterres, His Excellency Mr. Volkan Bozkır, President of the United Nations General Assembly, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of UNOOSA, H.E. Ambassador Abdullah Al-Muallami, The Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations.

They complimented PSIPW on its role in promoting innovation on water research, and showed how vital space technology is to the future of water management.

UNOOSA is supporting PSIPW in organizing the 10<sup>th</sup> Awards Ceremony in October 2022 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as well.

**Slide 5:**

The Human Development Forum published the seventh volume of “A Better World” in 2021, focusing on the UN Sustainable Development Goal Number 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

We drafted a report for the book in collaboration with UNOOSA to showcase all of the chapters of our long-standing partnership. We also took the opportunity to showcase the many PSIPW laureates over the years who were awarded for their innovative use of space technology for water-related applications.

**Slide 6:**

As for upcoming events, the 5th International Conference on the Use of Space Technology for Water Resources Management will take place from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> of May this year. It is jointly organized by UNOOSA, the Government of Ghana, and PSIPW, to promote the use of space technology in water management for the benefit of developing countries. The call for abstracts is open until 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Registrations to attend in person are open until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

PSIPW and UNOOSA have co-organised the four previous conferences in cooperation with various countries around the world.

**Slide 7:**

Finally, I wish to announce that nominations for PSIPW's 11th Award are now open. I would like to invite everyone with water-related innovative work to apply for the prize.

**Slide 8:**

Thank you for your kind attention