

United Kingdom, Item 10

UK Statement on Space Weather at the 60th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS, 6th-17th February 2023

Chair, Distinguished Delegates.

The UK continues to prioritise activities to mitigate the impacts of space weather. Severe space weather is identified in our National Risk Register and our response outlined in Severe Space Weather Preparedness Strategy. Achieving resilience requires international collaboration. The UK has built strong working relationships with our international partners, and we wish to enhance this further. Towards this, the UK invested a further €95m into the European Space Agency Vigil space weather mission at the November 2022 ministerial. We would like to express gratitude to those other nations supporting this mission and would encourage others to join in the global efforts to improve space weather forecasting capabilities. The UK also supports that Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)-International Space Environment Service (ISES)- World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) continue their work on improving international cooperation across the Space weather domain. The UK are content with the initial planning and the established Declaration to determine which aspects each of the international entities will focus on and would be pleased to consider supporting the sharing of Member State survey data. Many Space Weather measurements rely on use of the radio frequency spectrum and we support the work currently being undertaken within the International Telecommunications Union to provide appropriate recognition for space weather sensors within the Radio Regulations.

At a national level, the SWIMMR programme is enabling the UK space weather community to make valuable advances in terms of monitoring and modelling many different aspects of space weather, with a strong aim

of transitioning results into operational use in line with our Preparedness Strategy.

Chair, severe space weather is of global concern which effects every nation. The UK would therefore like to thank those Members supporting Vigil other missions and research activities. The UK would also encourage those not yet participating to join these efforts to improve global space weather forecasting.