

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPOUS)

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee 2024

Statement by the United Arab Emirates

Agenda item 11: Long-term Sustainability of outer space activities

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

The UAE firmly believes that regional and international cooperation are key to fostering the progress of space exploration. Recognizing the complex challenges and vast opportunities that space presents, the UAE is committed to working collaboratively with global partners to advance scientific knowledge, promote innovation, and ensure the responsible and sustainable use of outer space.

The Emirates Mars Mission has achieved a remarkable milestone in the space science and technology field by receiving the prestigious 2023 Laurels for Team Achievement. This marks a historic milestone as the first interplanetary mission led by an Arab nation. The team's groundbreaking work in Mars exploration, including mapping the planet's atmosphere and uncovering insights into the moon Deimos, has earned global acclaim. This recognition emphasizes the UAE's persistent dedication and exceptional contributions to advancing the nation's understanding of the Red Planet

In February 2023, during a remarkable 180-day space mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS), UAE astronaut HE Dr. Sultan Al Neyadi led over 200 advanced research experiments and studies, totaling 585 hours. This collaborative effort involved partnerships with 10 international space agencies and collaborations with 25 universities from the UAE and worldwide. These experiments have played a crucial role, not only in advancing scientific understanding but also in actively engaging the scientific community, researchers, and students in the UAE and globally.

Madam Chair, the UAE is committed to collaborative endeavors with international partners for mutual progress. In a significant achievement this year, we proudly declared our participation in Lunar Gateway, standing alongside the USA, Japan, Canada, and the European Union. The UAE will be responsible for developing the lunar space station's Crew and Science Airlock, a critical component for maintaining a safe environment for astronauts. This unit will act as a portal of the station, serving as the entry and exit point for missions and astronauts travelling to the moon's surface from the Lunar Gateway Station. This groundbreaking achievement marks a pivotal moment, providing us and the world with the wealth of advanced scientific and engineering data collected by the station, enriching our pursuit of knowledge and exploration.

As we gather here today, the UAE underscores its dedication to promoting global cooperation for the peaceful exploration of outer space. Following the principles of the United Nations, we

emphasize the significance of scientific and technical progress in space exploration for the well-being of all nations. The UAE is fully committed to actively participating in these conversations, sharing knowledge, and playing a role in achieving our common objectives of advancing humanity's peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space.

Thank you, Madam Chair.