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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space****Report on the United Nations/Austria World Space Forum  
2023: Space for our common future****(Vienna, 12–14 December 2023)****I. Introduction**

1. The Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology and the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria jointly hosted the World Space Forum 2023 on the theme “Space for our common future” from 12 to 14 December 2023.
2. The World Space Forum 2023 provided an opportunity for space community representatives to discuss current and future activities, with a focus on the upcoming Summit of the Future in 2024, at which Member States will adopt a Pact for the Future to consolidate collective agreements and demonstrate global solidarity for present and future generations.
3. The event was co-organized by the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology and the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria.
4. The present report describes the background, objectives and programme of the Forum, provides a description of the programme and concludes with a summary of the exchanges during the sessions.

**II. Background and objectives**

5. Launched in Vienna in November 2019 (see [A/AC.105/1219](#)), the World Space Forum is an event series hosted by the United Nations that is built on the recommendations generated at four high-level forums held from 2015 to 2018. That sequence of forums demonstrated the growing interest of an increasing number of actors in discussing the future of space and international cooperation in the areas of the pillars of space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy.
6. Through the World Space Forums, the United Nations aims to leverage innovative solutions and technological developments to realize the Sustainable Development Goals. At the United Nations/United Arab Emirates High-level Forum, participants agreed that the Forum (later renamed the World Space Forum) should serve as a driver for exchange to promote dialogue between Governments,



international organizations, industry, the private sector, academia and civil society, to connect the four pillars of UNISPACE+50 and the “Space2030” Agenda (A/AC.105/1129, annex, para. 18).

7. The “Space2030” Agenda: space as a driver of sustainable development and its implementation plan form a comprehensive and strategic document charting the way to enhance the contribution of space and its applications to sustainable development and the realization of other global agendas, namely climate change and disaster risk reduction. The Office for Outer Space Affairs will continue to promote the usage and application of space technology in all forums.

8. The current state of our planet, marked by global warming, loss of biodiversity, food insecurity and pollution, poses a serious and complex challenge. Major global shocks have underscored our vulnerability and the impeded progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Recognizing that existing collective problem-solving mechanisms fall short in addressing the pace and scale of the challenges faced, the global community has called for a more effective multilateral system and innovative tools.

9. The Summit of the Future, to be held in September 2024, provides a pivotal moment for the global community to collectively address pressing challenges and forge a path towards a sustainable and inclusive future. With the primary goal of consolidating multilateral solutions, the Summit has the aim of strengthening global governance mechanisms to effectively address the intricate and urgent issues facing the international community.

10. The Summit’s objectives include fostering cooperation and innovation, enhancing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and demonstrating unwavering solidarity among Member States. It serves as a platform where nations will commit to adopting a Pact for the Future, demonstrating the shared commitment to the well-being of present and future generations. The significance of the Summit was underlined through the issuance by the Secretary-General of action-oriented policy briefs under the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda” (A/75/982), including policy brief 7, entitled “For all humanity – the future of outer space governance”.

11. The World Space Forum 2023 sought to draw attention to space solutions supporting the policy briefs leading to the Summit of the Future and was developed on the basis of the following objectives:

- Reaffirm and strengthen the contribution of space activities and space tools for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Promote international and public-private partnerships for the development of a sustainable, future-oriented and strong space environment
- Address the need to improve existing communication approaches with respect to the benefits of outer space technology and its applications
- Involve young people, as future space leaders, to address issues of importance for future generations
- Foster dialogue and close cooperation for developing a common space vision
- Centre the “Space2030” Agenda as a guiding document for enhancing space-derived economic benefits and strengthening the role of the space sector as a major driver of sustainable development
- Bring space actors together to exchange best practices and explore ways to jointly address challenges to humanity and sustainable development issues

### III. Attendance

12. The Forum brought together participants from national, regional and international public and private organizations and institutions, including decision-makers from government agencies, high-ranking officials from regional and international agencies, representatives and experts from United Nations agencies, experts from the space community, experts from academic communities, policymakers, experts from international centres of excellence, researchers involved in the use of space technologies, representatives from both space-related and non-space-related fields of the private sector and civil society leaders.

13. A total of 197 individual participants – 45.7 per cent of whom were women, 53.3 per cent were men and 1.0 per cent “preferred not to say” – participated in the Forum in person.

14. The following 70 States were represented: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe, as well as the State of Palestine.

### IV. Programme

15. The programme of the Forum was co-developed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology and the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria.

16. The Forum opened with a high-level segment with introductory remarks from a representative of the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations in Vienna and the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs. The opening session concluded with two keynote presentations on the themes “How to mitigate our greatest challenges as a society: what the world can learn from big science” and “The significance of factual science communication in the realm of space data and technology”.

17. The expert exchanges in the following days on the theme “Space for our common future” provided an opportunity to draw attention to space solutions that effectively supported the areas mentioned in the various policy briefs that will inform the preparatory discussions at the Summit of the Future. The Forum agenda, which had a strong focus on successful communication to ensure the effectiveness of and to strengthen trust in policies, was developed with the objectives of raising the awareness of the Committee and its subcommittees and supporting the exchanges related to the Pact for the Future.

18. In session I, entitled “Communicating the benefits of space data to those in need”, the critical role of clear and evidence-based information was underscored. The session, which focused on transforming knowledge into actionable measures, explored how data and information from space could be effectively utilized. Recognizing the necessity of successful communication not only for making policies effective but also for bolstering trust, the session delved into topics such as effective communication mechanisms, storytelling and space science communication.

19. Session II, on enhancing the contribution of Earth observation and artificial intelligence for future emergency platforms, concentrated on the indispensable role of Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies in improving lives and preparing for and mitigating the consequences of disasters. Exploring space applications and solutions in responding to future global shocks, the session delved into topics including space for disaster preparedness, disaster prediction and informed decision-making.

20. Session III, on the theme “Embedding space into development policy and policy developed”, explored the integration of space technologies into development policies, with a focus on sustainable outcomes. Emphasizing collaboration, capacity-building and stakeholder engagement, the session aimed to provide practical insights into how to mainstream space considerations into policy frameworks at the local, national, and regional levels in order to drive positive social, economic, and environmental change.

21. Session IV, on the theme “Challenge of debris limits and solutions for space sustainability”, addressed ways of ensuring the benefits of space for future generations. Participants emphasized the need for cooperation and multilateral action to protect the sustainability of the space environment, and discussed how to leverage existing networks and the additional efforts required for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities. Topics covered included the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, space debris mitigation and space governance.

22. Session V, on the theme “Outer space and the Summit of the Future”, focused on the pivotal role of global governance and sustainable development. Participants emphasized the importance of multilateral cooperation, policy coherence and inclusive decision-making processes. The session was aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of the opportunities and challenges presented by outer space activities, as part of the preparations for the Summit of the Future.

23. The World Space Forum 2023 programme included an interactive session, a live recording of the Space Café podcast series and a poster session for which 16 posters were submitted. A session on the topic “Outer space and the summit of the future: how to prepare the ground?” gave the participants the opportunity to share ideas and discuss the Summit of the Future.

24. The closing session of the World Space Forum 2023 included a summary of the most important points raised during the panel discussions and concluding remarks from a representative from the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology of Austria, a representative of the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) and the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

25. The video recordings of each session, as well as all presentations and posters, can be accessed through the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs ([www.unoosa.org](http://www.unoosa.org)).

## V. Summary of the Forum exchanges

26. The keynote speeches at the World Space Forum emphasized the crucial role of data in addressing urgent global challenges. The Forum, as part of the space track leading towards the Summit of the Future, provided an important platform to focus on leveraging space applications for sustainable development, advocating for science, technology and innovation, engaging youth and formulating a shared vision. The speakers highlighted the need for international collaboration to effectively address those complex challenges, encouraged dialogue to collect ideas contributing to the forthcoming Pact of the Future and stressed the importance of proactive measures for a sustainable future.

27. Participants noted the paradigm shift of an orientation towards economics and business within the space industry. Effective cross-sector collaboration and the strategic use of language were identified as crucial for successful commercialization. Participants

suggested reframing conversations, moving from a focus on space-centric terms to use of “Earth intelligence” terms, making use of business-related language to underline the practical benefits for various industries.

28. In that context, the participants in the World Space Forum discussed the three key aspects of Earth observation: availability, awareness and adoption. While the space industry predominantly focused on availability, the importance of increasing awareness and the adoption of satellite data applications was becoming increasingly significant. The participants stressed the significance of communicating the practical impacts of space data, especially in areas such as climate change.

29. The panellists described different audience types and underscored the need to tailor communication strategies for each of those types and, in order to engage effectively with the different audience groups, highlight for them the relevant applications and specific economic benefits. The participants concluded by advocating for improved communication within the space industry, with a focus on real-world applications and addressing the concerns of diverse audiences.

30. The participants emphasized the need for the space industry to proactively attend events in other sectors instead of expecting that the potential user community would participate in space-focused conferences. It was highlighted that, in order to break the perceived barrier, different industries should be approached with humility and understanding and by adopting language that was approachable and relatable.

31. During the discussions, it was highlighted that in conducting activities to raise the awareness of Governments, it was important to showcase concrete examples of economic growth, improved production and reduced costs. The communication strategy could involve the presentation of videos and user cases that demonstrated the potential benefits of space data for specific government branches and industries.

32. Participants emphasized the significance of engaging end users in various sectors and highlighted the importance of understanding the internal workings of those domains. It was important to involve end users and understand the intricacies of their different industries so that space-derived information could be used most effectively, because the space community might miss strategic opportunities in areas where they lacked detailed knowledge.

33. The participants emphasized the effectiveness of storytelling in transferring information in a more engaging and accessible manner. One speaker highlighted that storytelling presented information in a way that resonated with a broader audience, as people generally understand and connect with stories.

34. The importance of translating the benefits of space into tangible examples was noted. Focusing on democratizing data through an open data approach could increase accessibility and contribute to citizen empowerment.

35. The need for effective outreach was highlighted, and it was noted that public perception influenced public funding, which was crucial for the space industry. Participants criticized the prevalent use of technical jargon, acronyms and dry communication styles, calling for a shift to more engaging and accessible narratives.

36. The panellists highlighted the current transformative moment in which advances in artificial intelligence and space data were revolutionizing the ability to make predictions about future events and manage various aspects of them. It was noted that the emergence of a new category of machine learning called “neural operators”, which significantly accelerated forecasting capabilities and made possible the prediction of future events and greater synergy between artificial intelligence and space data. The potential for such predictions extended beyond weather patterns to areas such as ocean currents, ecological change, atmospheric conditions, aerosols and human activities such as transportation, food, finance and health.

37. On that note, participants acknowledged the need for accessibility, an understanding of developments in artificial intelligence and integration with existing

tools in order to ensure the widespread and inclusive use of these advanced capabilities to enhance decision-making across diverse sectors.

38. Participants advocated for a cooperative approach to make space data accessible on the web for the benefit of the planet and stressed expanding Earth observation data into the digital sphere, thereby supporting crisis management, emergency response and the “digital humanities” and empowering artificial intelligence applications.

39. Artificial intelligence had been introduced as a transformative tool but it was noted that there were challenges such as high implementation costs, the need for specialized expertise and the technological gap that existed between advanced and developing countries. Participants recommended establishing a global platform for spacefaring nations to provide assistance to non-spacefaring nations, conduct joint research programmes and develop international agreements and policies to address those challenges.

40. Participants noted that the finite nature of space resources, the proliferation of capable actors and the infusion of private capital made it necessary to re-evaluate space policies. The role of policy regulations and international collaboration was acknowledged, as was the need for effective communication to convey the importance of protecting space for future generations.

41. Participants discussed the interference of large satellite constellations in astronomical observations and advocated for international regulations and collaboration to mitigate the effects. It was noted that effective communication and advocacy for astronomy were needed to persuade society, including policymakers, of the importance of safeguarding the night sky.

42. The discussions culminated in a call to view space as a finite resource and participants emphasized the need for forward-looking policymaking in order to address challenges and protect the shared global interest in space exploration and the long-term sustainability of outer space.

43. The importance of incorporating space-based activities into development strategies was noted. It was emphasized that space technology could contribute to the achievement of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Panellists also highlighted the unique capability of space technology in addressing a wide range of societal challenges but stressed the need for honest communication about the role of space in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and asserted that no other sector could claim such broad application in contributing to all 17 Goals.

44. However, it was noted that there was a disconnect between the space and non-space sectors, thus requiring greater awareness and engagement with non-space sector actors and policymakers. To address that gap, participants proposed the concept of “space ambassadors” and advocated for open innovation frameworks through which non-space companies could be invited to take responsibility in shaping space policies and addressing potential challenges.

45. In that regard, participants underscored the need for Governments to trust commercial solutions and involve commercial voices in policy development and also underscored the interconnectedness of stakeholders in addressing pressing space challenges and advancing sustainability efforts. Participants advocated for inclusive policymaking that took into consideration the perspectives of all stakeholders to ensure effective solutions in the space domain.

46. Panellists emphasized the critical importance of addressing space sustainability within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and making a transition from dialogue to action by adopting long-term sustainability guidelines. A dedicated session was held to engage various stakeholders in fostering an open conversation on space sustainability; the session highlighted the use of various media formats, analogies and metaphors, as well as collaborating with storytellers, to effectively communicate complex topics and foster a broader understanding of space’s role in daily life.

47. Participants also considered the importance of satellite-based monitoring in predicting and preventing collisions and the risks of interference in space operations. There was a need for international collaboration and effective communication to address challenges, and participants referred to the regulatory aspects of supporting sustainable practices.

48. In discussions concerning the International Telecommunication Union filing process, participants described the examination process for projects, emphasizing the importance of compatibility with existing regulations and the need for projects to undergo several steps before advancing to the coordination phase. The complexity of the process and the filtering mechanism in place prevented certain projects from proceeding further. Speakers also noted that projects needed to be reasonable and underlined that setting definitive limits posed a challenge due to the dynamic nature of space activities.

49. A participant referred to the role of insurance companies in supporting sustainable practices: some companies refused to insure satellites in low Earth orbit because of the associated risks. The need for responsible decision-making in space operations, as well as careful consideration before launching satellites, was highlighted.

50. Participants discussed the concept of space sustainability and the role of initiatives for promoting responsible behaviour among space actors. The mission to encourage sustainable space missions and its tiered space sustainability rating system, which incentivized operators to adopt more sustainable practices voluntarily, was highlighted, and the importance of collaboration and transparency in achieving long-term sustainability goals was stressed.

51. In addressing regulatory approaches, participants discussed the ongoing consultations on incentive-based regulations to encourage satellite operators to adopt more sustainable practices by providing incentives such as insurance premium discounts.

52. Overall, the discussions underscored the importance of responsible behaviour in space activities, the need for collaboration among stakeholders, and the role of regulations and incentives in promoting sustainability.

53. There was consensus among participants about the limitations of solely relying on best practices: there was a critical need for robust regulatory frameworks to effectively govern space activities. It was universally recognized that while guidelines served as valuable guiding principles, they must be augmented by enforceable regulations to deter non-compliance and ensure responsible conduct in space.

54. Throughout the discussions, the paramount importance of forging multilateral consensus among Member States within international forums, in particular within the United Nations, was underscored. Such consensus was deemed essential for legitimizing regulatory enactments and facilitating their effective implementation across diverse jurisdictions. Participants emphasized the need for inclusive deliberations to ensure that regulatory frameworks were equitable, transparent and responsive to the evolving needs of the global community.

55. A recurring theme throughout the dialogue was the importance of data transparency for informing decision-making and monitoring space activities comprehensively. Participants stressed the importance of enhanced collaboration among governmental, institutional and private sector stakeholders to address existing challenges robustly. The transparent sharing of data was a cornerstone for fostering trust, facilitating cooperation and mitigating risks associated with space operations.

56. Participants emphasized the importance of law and international cooperation as enablers for the implementation of the “Space2030” Agenda. It was underscored that the rule of law and international cooperation were essential for preserving sustainability in space and on Earth and were in alignment with the objectives of Sustainable Development Goal 16. International cooperation, as reflected in

multilateralism, in contrast to unilateralism, was referred to, as was the need for concerted efforts among States to govern space activities effectively.

57. In that regard, it was noted that the key legal principles outlined in international space law mandated that space activities adhere to international law and take into consideration the interests of all State parties. Moreover, the call for stronger international cooperation, as articulated in the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda” (A/75/982) and “Our Common Agenda policy brief 7: for all humanity – the future of outer space governance”, underscored the need for a multilateral approach to address contemporary challenges in space governance.

58. The risks associated with the absence of a secure legal regime posed a danger to international business and security, which discouraged investment in the space sector. Consequently, it was emphasized that addressing these challenges required robust international cooperation, as echoed in the call for a multilateral approach to strengthen global governance and propel innovation in space activities.

59. It was noted that in that regard, law and international cooperation in governing space activities were essential for achieving sustainable development and ensuring the peaceful and responsible use of outer space for the benefit of present and future generations. The Summit of the Future was an opportune platform to advance those objectives and foster dialogue among stakeholders to shape the future governance of space activities.

60. The importance of Member States’ receptiveness to input from various stakeholders, in particular regarding the Summit of the Future, was emphasized, and it was highlighted that the final decision-making authority in that intergovernmental process lay with the Member States. Efforts to involve civil society, such as through dialogue and submissions, were considered to be crucial for ensuring that a diverse range of perspectives were considered in discussions of the Summit of the Future.

61. Participants emphasized the need for action-oriented and concise agreements to translate existing commitments and principles into tangible outcomes in order to address the issue of space sustainability. The Summit of the Future was a key opportunity to develop such agreements and advance efforts for space sustainability. Space issues were interconnected with broader global challenges, and space activities had an impact on areas such as peace and security, sustainable development and digital cooperation.

62. The discussions underscored the importance of addressing space infrastructure requirements, in particular concerning lunar exploration and the utilization of lunar resources. Awareness was raised regarding the necessity for coordinated planning and management of lunar activities to ensure equitable access and avoid haphazard development. Existing initiatives, such as the Artemis Accords and the International Lunar Research Station, were highlighted as examples of collaborative endeavours involving integrated planning by multiple stakeholders. Nevertheless, it was acknowledged that those initiatives might not comprehensively address the need for globally integrated planning that took into account various scientific, and economic factors.

63. Panellists emphasized the significance of space policy development and its integration into existing policies to regulate and facilitate space activities. Although space policy could vary depending on a country’s objectives, it was crucial for governing the novel operational environment of space. The discussion also underscored the global nature of space activities and the necessity for international cooperation and coordination, in particular in addressing challenges such as sustainable development and monitoring climate change. Lastly, concerns were raised regarding the environmental impact of space activities, including the proliferation of satellites and their potential effects on the Earth’s atmosphere, underscoring the importance of prudent planning and consideration of long-term consequences.

64. Participants expressed optimism regarding prospective advancements in space exploration and regulation. Envisioned outcomes included the formulation of



comprehensive regulatory architectures, the adoption of responsible practices and a transition towards the paradigm of a circular economy in space affairs.

## VI. Member State discussions

65. The summaries below are a compilation of insights and the main themes presented, in order to support ongoing discussions and further work. The summaries do not represent consensus by Member States with respect to the content or language formulations.

66. The interventions at the World Space Forum gave expression to the resounding consensus on the paramount importance of advancing multilateral efforts for the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space. Central to these discussions were the forthcoming Summit of the Future and the associated Pact of the Future, both stemming from the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 75/1), which underscored the importance of reinvigorated multilateralism to address present and future challenges. Some participants noted that the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda” and the related policy brief 7 were guiding documents in navigating the complexities of space governance and reflected a collective commitment to charting a course towards a more cooperative and inclusive space environment.

67. Member States reiterated the necessity of inclusive participation in shaping the trajectory of the governance of outer space activities, emphasizing the importance of engaging diverse stakeholders, including academia, the private sector and civil society. This broad-based approach to governance was seen as essential in harnessing the transformative potential of space technologies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

68. The discussions highlighted the need for effective coordination and collaboration to ensure that space remained a safe and sustainable domain for present and future generations. Discussions about space sustainability focused on transparency, as well as the role of international bodies, in particular the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in governing outer space activities. Member States underscored the need for the elaboration of new instruments to govern peaceful space exploration, given the evolving landscape marked by increased commercial involvement in space activities.

69. On that note, it was highlighted that the Committee had successfully negotiated five legally binding documents, including the seminal Outer Space Treaty of 1967, which had been foundational in the establishment of international space law and its ongoing evolution. In light of the heightened involvement of commercial entities in near-Earth space exploration, it was deemed crucial to reinvigorate the Committee’s role in norm-making.

70. In tandem with discussions on governance frameworks, Member States underscored the pivotal role of space technologies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Proposals were put forward to enhance support for the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and prioritize capacity-building efforts, in particular in regions vulnerable to climate change and rapid population growth. Special attention was given to Africa, and it was highlighted that the region had unique challenges and opportunities in leveraging space technologies for sustainable development.

71. The interventions at the World Space Forum reflected the collective commitment to advancing multilateral efforts in outer space governance while navigating the complexities of the evolving space landscape. Through inclusive participation and guided by foundational documents, Member States articulated a vision for a more cooperative, transparent and sustainable approach to outer space activities. Those discussions underscored the need for robust international

cooperation to address emerging challenges and harness the transformative potential of space for the benefit of all humankind.

72. Moreover, Member States highlighted the imperative of addressing emerging challenges in outer space governance, particularly in light of the increased involvement of commercial entities in space exploration. The mitigation of space debris, space traffic coordination and space resources were identified as priority areas requiring concerted international action. It was stressed that there was a need for transparency measures and guidelines to promote responsible conduct in space activities, which underlined the importance of adhering to established international frameworks.

73. In the exchanges, participants cautioned against creating redundant initiatives which could potentially duplicate the functions of existing international forums, and it was deemed crucial to avoid fragmentation and ensure effective governance of outer space. While participants supported international efforts to promote guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, it was emphasized that it was important to maintain the division of labour between the Committee and other relevant bodies.

74. Concerns about the potential weaponization of space were expressed and States member of the Committee were urged to combine their efforts to address those threats effectively. Furthermore, the necessity of ensuring the peaceful uses of outer space and the safety of space operations was highlighted, as participants emphasized the importance of drafting a multilateral legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space which would stipulate the prohibition of placement of weapons in outer space and the prohibition of the threat or use of force in outer space.

75. In summary, the World Space Forum served as a platform for engaging discussions on the future of outer space governance, with Member States reaffirming their commitment to collective action in addressing shared challenges. The Summit of the Future and the Pact of the Future were considered to be key initiatives for fostering greater cooperation and coordination in the exploration and utilization of outer space. At a time when the international community was looking towards the future, the discussions at the Forum laid the groundwork for advancing multilateral efforts to ensure that space remained a safe, sustainable and inclusive domain for generations to come.

## VII. Conclusions

76. The discussions at the World Space Forum underscored the imperative of advancing multilateral efforts for the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space. As a precursor to the forthcoming Summit of the Future and the associated Pact of the Future, the Forum provided a critical platform for stakeholders to discuss space governance issues. Guided by foundational documents such as the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda” and policy brief 7, participants reaffirmed their commitment to charting a cooperative and inclusive course towards a more transparent and sustainable space environment.

77. The discussions in the Forum laid the groundwork for continued dialogue and action, in particular in the lead-up to the Summit of the Future. Participants advocated for enhanced international cooperation, the integration of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, and the adoption of inclusive policies to address global challenges effectively. It was imperative to translate discussions into actionable outcomes, and there was a call for robust regulatory frameworks to govern space endeavours responsibly.

78. Key themes that emerged from the discussions included the necessity of inclusive participation in shaping outer space governance, the pivotal role that international bodies such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space could play by elaborating new space governance instruments, and the importance of

transparency measures to promote responsible conduct in space activities. Participants emphasized the need for effective coordination and collaboration to address emerging challenges such as space debris, space traffic management and space resources.

79. Moreover, participants highlighted the transformative potential of space technologies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, and proposals were put forward to enhance support for the Office for Outer Space Affairs and prioritize capacity-building efforts in regions that were vulnerable to climate change and undergoing rapid population growth. Special attention was given to Africa, and it was highlighted that the region had unique challenges and opportunities in leveraging space technologies for sustainable development.

80. The World Space Forum had set a precedent for future discussions on space sustainability, and had emphasized that there was a need for a cooperative and inclusive approach in order to harness space for global good. As the Summit of the Future approached, the insights and recommendations emanating from the Forum would undoubtedly play a crucial role in shaping the future governance of space activities and leveraging space technology for sustainable development.

81. In summary, the World Space Forum facilitated engaging discussions on the future of outer space governance and reaffirmed the collective commitment of Member States to collective action in addressing shared challenges. As the international community looks forward to the Summit of the Future, the Forum facilitated multilateral efforts to ensure that space remained a safe, sustainable and inclusive domain for generations to come. The Summit of the Future and the Pact of the Future were recognized as key initiatives for fostering greater cooperation and coordination in the exploration and utilization of outer space and signalled a hopeful trajectory towards a more peaceful and prosperous future in the exploration and utilization of outer space.

82. In conclusion, the delegation of Germany announced that the World Space Forum for 2024 would take place in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 5 December 2024.

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