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EUTELSAT IGO participates in the 68th session of COPUOS

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EUTELSAT IGO participated as an Observer in the 68th plenary session of United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), held in Vienna from 25 June to 2 July 2025 and chaired by Mr. Rafiq Akram of Morocco.

With 104 Member States and 56 Permanent Observers, COPUOS serves as the leading multilateral forum for promoting international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. In 2025, the Committee received six new membership applications and 14 requests from organisations and states for ad-hoc observer status, reflecting the growing global interest in space governance.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, Director of the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), called for urgent action on space safety amid an ever-growing number of satellite launches, citing a recent near-collision in orbit, just 75 metres apart, between satellite operators in the Asian region and emphasised the need for a dedicated international committee on space traffic coordination.

During the session, Member States agreed to establish a new international Expert Group on Space Situational Awareness and tasked UNOOSA with gathering input on legal and policy aspects of space traffic management, from national regulations to industry practices. The Committee further called on the 80th UN General Assembly to decide on convening a fourth United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE

IV) in 2027. In addition, Member States formally adopted the reports of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee.

EUTELSAT IGO followed matters of interest to the Organisation regarding inter alia "Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes", "Use of space technology in the UN system", "Space and sustainable development", "Space 2030" agenda and "Future Role and Method of Work of the Committee".

In his statement submitted to COPUOS the Executive Secretary:

- reaffirmed EUTELSAT IGO's commitment to the sustainable use of outer space;
- welcomed the recent signs of a stronger strategic and financial engagement by the French State vis a vis the Eutelsat Group;
- highlighted the Organisation's continued support for the work of COPUOS and its Subcommittees.

The statement was delivered by Ms. Petra Šajn on behalf of the Executive Secretary.

About EUTELSAT IGO

EUTELSAT IGO is the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization. Established by an international treaty, the intergovernmental organisation is headquartered in Paris and comprises 49 Member States. Its primary mission is to ensure that the company Eutelsat S.A. complies with the Basic Principles of the EUTELSAT Amended Convention. It also ensures continuity of the rights to use radiofrequencies and orbital locations which were assigned collectively to the Member States and the Organisation by the International Telecommunication Union. EUTELSAT IGO is an active contributing member of the international telecommunications and space communities.

For more information, visit www.eutelsatigo.int/en.

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