

## **Statement of the Polish Delegation to the 64 Session of the COPUOS**

**Vienna, 27 August 2021**

### **Agenda Item 4**

**Prof. Piotr Wolański**

*Dear Mr. Piso,*

Mr. Chairman, me and my delegation are pleased to see You chairing this session. I am deeply convinced that your experience, knowledge and leadership will contribute to the success of this meeting. At the same time, I would like to assure You about the full support of the Polish Delegation.

I would also like to express our thanks to the representatives of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, especially Madam Simonetta Di Pippo and her team, for their huge efforts and a great work, in preparing this Session in time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,*

Last year was very active for the Polish space sector and many events related to space activities were exceptional successes.

The Solar Orbiter probe, in which the Space Research Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences teams were involved, was launched on February 10, 2020 by the ESA mission. It is dedicated to the research in the physics of the Sun and the heliosphere. The STIX X-ray spectrometer / Telescope has worked properly. Observations with this device will help explain the mechanism of acceleration of electrons on the Sun and their transport into interplanetary space.

Space Research Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences was selected as a partner of the NASA IMAP mission thanks to many years of experience in the study of the heliosphere, in which the pressure of the solar wind outweighs the pressure of galactic matter. The experience has been confirmed by cooperation on such missions as IBEX (NASA) and Solar Orbiter and PROBA-3 (ESA).

Also since 2012, the Institute of Aviation in Warsaw has been working on the use of space technologies to monitor forests and crops using multi-spectral satellite remote sensing.

These activities are examples of the spectrum of Poland's international cooperation in space and are the important part of our contribution in building the international space sector.

We would also like to congratulate NASA on the return to launching astronauts to the ISS from USA using SpaceX Dragon spacecraft and initiation of Space Touristic flights by Unity 22 of Virgin Galactic and New Shepard-16 of Blue Origin, both private companies from the USA.

Our congratulations go also to China for launching Tiangong space station and the first crew of 3 Taikonaut for a 3-month stay.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for your attention.