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ESPACE 38  
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COMPET 374  
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IND 122  
EU-GNSS 14  
TRANS 358  
TELECOM 133  
ENER 268  
EMPL 377  
CSDP/PSDC 414  
CFSP/PESC 689

**NOTE**

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From: Presidency  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Draft Council conclusions on “Orientations on establishing key principles for the global space economy”

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Delegations will find in annex the draft Council conclusions on “Orientations on establishing key principles for the global space economy”.

**Draft Council conclusions on  
“Orientations on establishing key principles for the global space economy”**

The Council of the European Union,  
[The Council of the European Space Agency,]

HAVING REGARD TO:

- the Framework Agreement between the European Communities – which has been succeeded by the European Union – and the European Space Agency (the “Framework Agreement”), which entered into force on 28 May 2004 and drives the increasing cooperation between the two parties and calling for the establishment of a coherent and progressive development of an overall European Space Policy between both organisations<sup>1</sup> and to that effect calling for the regular joint and concomitant meetings of the Council of the European Union and the Council of ESA at ministerial level referred to as “Space Council”<sup>2</sup>;
- the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) that establishes an EU competence in Space, and which calls for the European Union to establish any appropriate relations with ESA<sup>3</sup>;
- the Convention for the establishment of a European Space Agency of 30 May 1975, with the purpose to elaborate and implement a long-term space policy at intergovernmental level; to elaborate and implement activities and programmes in the space field; to coordinate the European space programme and national programmes; and to elaborate and implement the industrial policy<sup>4</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup> Article 1.1 ESA-EU Framework Agreement 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Article 8 ESA-EU Framework Agreement 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Articles 4.3, 189.1 and 189.3 TFEU 2008.

<sup>4</sup> Article II of ESA Convention 1975.

RECALLING:

- the resolutions and orientations adopted by the Space Council, notably on "The European Space Policy", "Taking forward the European Space Policy", "The Contribution of space to innovation and competitiveness in the context of the European Economic Recovery Plan, and further steps", "Global challenges, taking full benefit of European space systems", "Orientations concerning added value and benefits of space for the security of European citizens", as well as "Space as an enabler", the latter being adopted on 28 May 2019 and stressing, inter alia, the role of space for social and economic benefits and underlining that the cooperation between ESA and the EU under the Framework Agreement is carried out in full respect of their respective institutional setting and operational frameworks;
- the "Joint Statement on Shared Vision and Goals for the Future of Europe in Space" between the European Union and the European Space Agency, signed on 26 October 2016;
- the Communication from the Commission on the Space Strategy for Europe of 26 October 2016<sup>9</sup> and the Council Conclusions on "A Space Strategy for Europe" of 30 May 2017;
- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (7481/19 Inter-institutional File 2018/0236 (COD), 13 March 2019);
- "Resolution giving mandate to the Director General to establish appropriate relations between the European Space Agency and the European Union" (ESA/C-M/CCLXXVI/Res.1 (Final)) adopted by the Council at ministerial level on 25 October 2018 and mandating the Director General to discuss and negotiate with the EU a FFPA with a view to maximising the coherence and efficiency of the public investments made at European level in the space sector and establishing a cooperation scheme between the EU and ESA beneficial to Europe;

- the outcome of the ESA Ministerial Council, held in Seville, Spain on 27 and 28 November 2019 and its Resolution on “The five dimensions of Space 4.0” (ESA/C-M/CCLXXXVI/Res.1 (Final) adopted by the Council at ministerial level on 28 November 2019 and inviting the Director General to pursue the mandate given by the Resolution of the Council at ministerial level on 25 October 2018 to negotiate with the EU a FFPA for establishing a cooperation scheme beneficial to Europe, to all their Member State, its industry and its citizens;
- Conclusions of the special meeting of the European Council on 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 July 2020;
- the European Council Conclusions of 21 July 2020 stating that the plan for European recovery will need massive investment for a sustainable and resilient recovery, creating jobs and repairing the immediate damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic whilst supporting green and digital priorities;
- that the European Union and its Member States set up the recovery package to strengthen the European economy after the crisis and to provide finances for investment to mitigate the socio-economic damage from the COVID-19 crisis;
- the role, space is playing for meeting the goals outlined in “A Union that strives for more” by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen;

EMPHASZING:

- that common efforts are not only necessary to support the most affected businesses but also to make smart public investments that foster convergence, resilience and sustainability;

- the role space applications are playing in managing and mitigating the COVID-19 crisis in various fields as transportation, resource management or the growth in telecommunication and like the ESA-NASA-JAXA dashboard showing COVID impact from satellite, as well as the measures taken by the EC and ESA to manage immediate impacts from the Covid on space industry;
- the fundamental role played by the European Space Agency for the EU space flagship programmes Copernicus, Galileo and EGNOS, by the European GNSS Agency in the frame of Galileo and EGNOS, and by EUMETSAT and the other entrusted entities in the frame of Copernicus;

### **European space: Building a competitive and robust European space sector**

1. WELCOME the significant progress achieved in the preparation of the future European space programme, both with regard to the programmes of the European Space Agency decided upon at the occasion of its Ministerial Council 2019 “Space 19+” as well as with regard to the future European Union space programme for the next financial period; and HIGHLIGHT that these programmes, together with the national space programmes of the Member States and the programmes of EUMETSAT, are an important element for the success of European space for industry competitiveness and for providing operational space systems implementing public policies and driving innovation, economic growth and job creation;
2. STRESS that the global space arena is rapidly developing, characterized by an increased number of space actors – large and small, public and private – and a dynamically growing global space economy driven by innovation, new market opportunities and whose value by far exceeds global public funding for space programmes, thus turning the space sector in a mature and viable market;
3. HIGHLIGHT that European space, therefore, reaches beyond the publically financed programmes and that it is increasingly driven by commercial space activities and that there is a highly competitive European space industry which enables Europe to participate in the global growth of the space economy;

4. UNDERLINE also the increasing strategic dimension of space and that accessing and using outer space contributes significantly to European independence; and HIGHLIGHTS that this is defined as Europe's ability to define its policy priorities, including in the area of security and foreign affairs, to dispose of the institutional, political and material conditions for their implementation – in cooperation with others or, if necessary, alone – and to essentially contribute to the development of international regulatory regimes in order to preserve European interests internationally;
5. UNDERLINE that in this evolving context, Europe needs to reinforce its efforts in the space sector for strengthening the success of its programmes and of the European space industry in global markets and its increase Europe's international role in order to benefit from and maximize the socio-economic benefits from space; and therefore STRESSES that it is all the more important to reinforce the established roles and responsibilities of the institutional actors in European space based on their respective strengths and competences;
6. EXPRESS that it is the primary role of the European Union in the space sector, to concentrate on setting appropriate regulatory frameworks, on common market issues, on using its demand for space solutions as well as on the use of space systems for the implementation of sector policies and to the operate, through the European Union Agency for the Space Programme, dedicated space infrastructure to that effect; STRESS the primary role of Member States for security-related activities, for determining European needs for technological independence and autonomy and for providing the public funds required for the European space programmes; ACKNOWLEDGE that the European Space Agency is responsible designing and developing world-class space technology and operational space infrastructures both, and for efficiently managing complex space programmes both, for its own and for the European Union;
7. CONSIDER that there are also benefits for synergizing the space sector with the security and defence sectors, focussing on those areas necessary for preserving and enhancing European defence capabilities; and UNDERLINES that it is the primary responsibility of the Member States to define the European needs for technological independence and autonomy in this regard;

8. HIGHLIGHT the value created by space for society, economy and environment covering in space and from space activities and the potential of space as an enabling technology for driving economic growth, creating jobs and implementing political priorities such as the digital transformation of European industries and societies including through the use of the internet of things and 5G, addressing the challenges of climate change, security and defense as well as achieving the sustainable development goals in Europe and beyond;
9. STRESSES the essential role of the downstream sector for implementing public policies, creating jobs and economic growth and benefitting non-space sectors;
10. UNDERLINE the value created by Space in the European economy and society: space as an engine for growth, space representing a value chain and 230,000 highly skilled jobs in Europe, the importance of New Space and new emerging actors, demonstrated by the studies on the socio-economic impacts of space programme such as: “ESA, Creating Value for Europe”;
11. UNDERLINE that space contributes to the success and resilience of the European economy by helping discover and mitigate new aspects of complex phenomena, such as climate change or the spreading of pandemics;
12. UNDERLINE that space provides the means of supporting decision making through information extracted from space, in-situ and other data, and by providing services that no other sector can provide – namely satellite communication and navigation;
13. RECOGNISE that the partnership between the European Union and the European Space Agency based on the established roles and responsibilities needs to be reinforced in order to ensure efficient cooperation and coherence of actions and, thus, securing an efficient use of public funding across Europe and UNDERLINE that regular Space Council meetings are an important element to ensure such cooperation and that it is essential for the European space sector to:
  - a) make best use of the legislative and regulatory power of the European Union to ensure level-playing field for European space industry,

- b) strengthen the partnership with respect to critical technologies, the Europeanisation of certain components and technological non-dependence,
  - c) jointly work on the support e.g. for start-ups and small and medium enterprises, including for what concerns IOD/IOV and internationalisation,
  - d) reinforce the role of space tools and infrastructure in all the strategic value chains: connected and autonomous vehicles, smart health, low CO<sub>2</sub> emission industry, Hydrogen technologies;
14. STRESS the common European interest, particularly against a context of debilitated European economy under the COVID-19 threat, to reinforce the implementation of Europe's space programmes while maximising the efficiency in the use of public resources;

**Implementation measures for energizing commercial and private space activities**

15. UNDERLINE that European space activities are designed according to their social benefits and that the innovation potential of the European space ecosystem needs to be strengthened by promoting a "European NewSpace policy" encouraging entrepreneurship and giving access to start-ups to financing and promoting cooperation between space and non-space sectors in areas such as energy, resources, health, connectivity and mobility;
16. UNDERLINE that the commercial value of space far exceeds the public space spending and that the NewSpace paradigm has reinforced not only innovation and the growth of new types of space activities, but also increased commercialization and private investment in space; WELCOMES that in this way, the market and the commercial activities have become the key driver for the increase in space spending and space activities in Europe and beyond; and HIGHLIGHTS the need for the space industry to make full use of the rapidly developing market opportunities;

17. STRESS the need for the public side to support the competitiveness of the European space ecosystem on the worldwide market in partnership with industry; and CALLS to use the full scope of tools across the European Union and the European Space Agency to that effect, for all types of industry and other relevant actors, inter alia start-ups, small and medium-sized enterprises, midcaps, large system integrators, research centres and test facilities – and ranging from research to technology development to regulatory tools, intellectual property rights regimes, export support measures, product policy and access to financing;
18. HIGHLIGHT the need to promote market-based approaches for an increased efficiency in the space sector, to use the full potential of the common market, including in public procurement, and to strengthen the share of suppliers, in particular SME in public procurement and to support their competitiveness to that effect in order to further support innovation and economic growth;
19. HIGHLIGHT that in order demonstrate and maximise the socio-economic impact of space activities across Europe, the success of space industrial policy relies on an effective, responsive and flexible implementation based on regular dialogue with all types of entities and stakeholders and tailored to the type of programme, related inter alia to close to market developments, public private partnerships, science programmes, operational systems, small missions;
20. Therefore CALLS on the European Commission and the Director-General of the European Space Agency to draw up a new space innovation strategy with a focus on increased competition and efficiency and common European objectives in the mid and long-term perspective;

**Establishing key principles for the global space economy: Perspectives for European Space within the new global space economy, in particular in a post-Corona time**

*Developing international markets*

21. RECOGNISE the need for strengthening the overall competitiveness of European space industry and supply chains with regard to international markets (fostering European autonomy in selected, strategically relevant areas as well) – at all levels, systems and service providers and ranging from start-ups to small and medium enterprises to system primes –through specific and sustainable actions in multiple areas aimed at strengthening a global level-playing field fostering open economies including free and fair trade on the basis of multilateral solutions; and REITERATE that Europe needs to play a stronger role in shaping international regulatory regimes in different areas in order to promote European interests on the global scale;
22. EMPHASIZE that strengthened rules for the global space economy benefit the European space industry by allowing it to gain access to and succeed in international markets, namely by reducing barriers to trade in goods and services in the scope of trade agreements concluded by the European Union and allowing access to public procurement;
23. CALL on the European Commission to include in future trade and investment agreements the trade in space products and service as well as to consider including in such agreements access to public procurement, while attaching particular importance to the principle of reciprocity; and further CALL on the European Commission, together with the Member States, the European External Action Service and the European Space Agency to further develop its efforts for economic space diplomacy;

Space Traffic Management:

24. STRESS that there is a need for a Space Traffic Management understood as a coherent set of technical and regulatory provisions assuring safe access into outer space, operations in outer space and return from outer space to Earth free from physical or radio-frequency interference in order to preserve the safe, sustainable and secure use of outer space; and NOTE that there are a number of Space Traffic Management initiatives both within Europe and abroad;
25. HIGHLIGHT that Space Traffic Management is highly relevant for Europe because it guarantees the protection of the European operational space systems, thus ensuring the viability of private and public investments in space;
26. UNDERLINE that Europe disposes of the to contribute to the technical realization of Space Traffic Management, notably through the Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) capabilities provided through the Consortium and through the technology developments of the debris removal mission ADRIOS of the European Space Agency decided upon at Ministerial Council ‘Space 19+’;
27. CALL on the European Union and the European Space Agency to continue their efforts in order to strengthen essential European technological capabilities which are a prerequisite for Space Traffic Management; and INVITE the European Commission to explore possibilities to develop SST capabilities in the scope of the European Defence Fund;
28. CONSIDER that in order to implement Space Traffic Management, international regulation is needed on different levels, ranging from the development of technical and operational standards over norms of responsible behaviour in outer space, to the long-term objective of establishing a dedicated unitary international space traffic management regime; HIGHLIGHT that the ongoing development and maturation of novel technology and missions, including space robotics, on-orbit servicing as well as in terms of automation and artificial intelligence, make it all the more necessary to proceed with a parallel development of norms and regulations; and STRESS that Europe is already contributing to promoting international regulation in multilateral for a and these efforts need to be reinforced, including through the development of substantive European positions to that effect;

29. **UNDERLINE** that one of the levels of the governance of Space Traffic Management governance pertains to public international space law, and that the Member States as parties of the relevant United Nations space Treaties and Conventions, therefore, play the primary role in shaping a European position in this respect, supported by the European Commission and the European Space Agency; and **CALL** on the European External Action Service to reinforce facilitating regular exchange among Member States, the European Commission and the European Space Agency on matters relevant to Space Traffic Management;
30. **REITERATE** in this context that in order to further enhance European leadership in sustainable use of space, the European Union should declare the acceptance of the rights and obligations under the relevant United Nations Treaties and Conventions;
31. **STRESS** the necessity for promoting European industrial interests by contributing decisively to corresponding technical and operational standards relevant to Space Traffic Management; and that Europe should actively support such processes and participate in them in order to preserve its economic interests;
32. **INVITE** the European Commission to promote, together with the Member States, the European Space Agency, the European standards organizations, including the European Cooperation of Space Standardization, and industry the development of European space standards relevant for Space Traffic Management;

*Financing space activities:*

33. **WELCOME** that the new space economy is characterized by increasing private sector investment in space activities; and **NOTES** that attracting such investments is the key driver for developing the new space entrepreneurial ecosystem in Europe and beyond;
34. **UNDERLINE** the need for Europe to support European industry (from start-ups to SMEs to system integrator) by various financing instruments and to promote funding opportunities and enhance access to financing, inter alia for start-ups, scale-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises in order to yield the full innovation potential of such European new space companies;

35. INVITE the Member States, the European Commission, the European Space Agency, the European Investment Bank, the financing industry and other relevant actors to jointly review their existing instruments with a view to enhancing their effectiveness for the European new space ecosystem; and HIGHLIGHT in particular the benefits of seed funding, co-financing models, business incubators and other instruments;
36. ENCOURAGE in particular on the European Commission to strengthen opportunities for supporting e.g. start-up and small and medium-sized enterprises by co-financing models, thus matching and stimulating private investments in new space companies and through the European Investment Fund;
37. RECOGNIZE that novel approaches are needed beyond traditional financing engineering, such as asset-based financing to enhance the opportunities for loans for the space economy from the private finance sector; and, in this respect, HIGHLIGHTS the benefits of the UNIDROIT Space Assets Protocol adopted in 2012; and INVITES the European Commission to prepare the signature of this Protocol by the European Union;
38. UNDERLINE the opportunity that asset-based financing, which could be facilitated by the UNIDROIT Space Assets Protocol, presents for the new space entrepreneurial ecosystem as a tool to reduce financing costs for satellite operators and to provide creditors with valuable and accessible securities for their loans;
39. RECOMMEND the European space and financing industry to reinforce private investments in space and to take over more responsibility in a rapidly developing new space economy and to make best use of existing and future funding mechanisms;

Intellectual Property Rights and Cyber Security/Resiliency:

40. EXPRESS that effective management of intellectual property rights in the area of space is essential for strengthening the European space industry and boosting their success on the global scale; and STRESSES the need for the European Union and the European Space Agency to ensure that the intellectual property rights generated under their space programmes and activities are generally mutually accessible for the benefit of European space programmes and industry as well as for enhancing cost-efficiency in European public spending on space;
41. NOTE that, in terms of public procurement, the competitiveness of European space industry is enhanced through wide access to intellectual property rights created in the scope of public procurement; and HIGHLIGHTS the success of the corresponding policy of the European Space Agency which leaves the intellectual property rights with the contractor while granting an access right to such rights for the public;
42. CALL on the European Commission to make the widest possible use of the existing flexibility under the European Union's procurement law for leaving intellectual property rights to the contractor, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, so that they can commercialize it;
43. HIGHLIGHT the need to protect intellectual property rights with regard to both, their relevance for maintaining European capabilities and critical systems as well as the need to protect them from unauthorized use;
44. STRESS that cyber security and resiliency of European space systems is of growing importance for preserving the operability and reliability of European operational space systems, civil and defence, on the ground and in space; and UNDERLINES that there is a rapidly growing global market for cyber security and resiliency solutions resulting in commercial opportunities for the European space industry;
45. CALL on the Member States, the European Commission, the European Space Agency and other relevant actors to reinforce cyber security and resiliency measures in the development

and operation of space systems and technology, taking also into account the need for the protection of European ground infrastructure outside Europe;

46. NOTE that there are already a number of cyber-related initiatives and INVITES the Member States, the European Commission and the European Space Agency to jointly work on a common European approach for cyber security and resiliency together with other relevant actors;
47. HIGHLIGHT the need to preserve the competitiveness and leadership of European space industry in satellite and ground system manufacturing; and INVITES the European space industry to develop business models in the area of space cyber security and resiliency;

#### Securing the preference of European launchers

48. REITERATE that it is necessary for Europe to maintain a secure, autonomous, reliable, cost-effective and affordable access to space based on the established roles and responsibilities, reiterating the strategic importance of European independent access to space and its role as an enabler of space activities; and HIGHLIGHTS that European industry together with the European Space Agency have been and continue to guarantee Europe's autonomy in the launcher sector for decades and continue to do so; and URGES industry and the European Space Agency to reinforce their efforts for finalizing the development of Ariane 6;
49. UNDERLINE that in particular the Ariane and Vega launch systems not only guarantee Europe's sovereign access to space but also constitute market enablers beyond the space sector for the European economy; and STRESSES the benefit of using European launch services for all institutional missions in Europe, and in so doing contributing to independent, reliable, cost-effective access to space for Europe;
50. RECOGNISE that aggregation of European launch service procurement to serve European institutional demand is essential in continuing to ensure Europe's autonomy and beneficial in providing European Governments and institutions with guaranteed fair prices, launch priority and flexibility;

51. UNDERLINE that the set-up of a pre-established common set of requirements, contractual process and procurement rules for launch service procurement among the two primary European institutional customers in Europe – the European Union and the European Space Agency – and upon request for any other European Institution, would rationalise the process and render it more efficient for both customers and European industry, and ACKNOWLEDGES the finalisation of the Collective Framework Clauses applicable to the procurement of launch services for European institutional missions, as signed by Arianespace and the European Space Agency in October 2018;
52. Further RECOGNISE that launch service procurement for any space mission require, further and beyond contractual capacity, specialised in-depth technical, product, process and cost capacity, starting from early mission definition;
53. RECOGNISING that the European Space Agency has developed a technical competence in launch service procurement, including for European Union and national programmes, NOTE that the European Space Agency has established an aggregation of launch service needs through a collective launch service procurement function both for its missions and, at their request, for those of other entities, including Member States, providing specific technical and programmatic know-how from definition phase to actual launch service procurement and implementation, and WELCOME the process set up by the European Space Agency for aggregating the demand for its future missions;
54. UNDERLINE that such a collective function is essential to ensuring continuous mutual adaptation of European launch systems Ariane and Vega and Europe’s missions reducing the associated risks and costs and attaining levers in launch service procurement tenders, negotiations and contract implementation;
55. Therefore RECOMMEND to proceed to the aggregation of demand for EU Programme missions on the basis of the aggregation process already effective for missions of the European Union, and, at their request, to those of other entities, including Member States;

## Space for the Green Deal and digitalization

56. UNDERLINE that in the short and medium terms, the current six candidate missions and new associated Copernicus Sentinel satellites including CO2M on anthropogenic CO2 measurement, as well as polar caps monitoring, are considered of high priority;
57. DRIVE space development and operational activities towards the European Green Deal (health, climate and sustainable developments), societal goals, support to (European) citizens, digital transformation and global connectivity, especially in the time of crisis through *inter alia* the:
- development of tracking based on navigation systems,
  - Earth observation systems providing crucial information for decision-makers on air and ocean pollution and monitoring, sustainable agricultural productivity, costal monitoring, biodiversity, fisheries, disaster management, law enforcement, international development aid, urban planning and urban climate,
  - satellite communication to bridge the digital divide, avoiding isolation in remote areas,
  - telecommunication as a mean for telemedicine and other remote applications,
  - space technologies for activities securing sustainable and resilient society
  - other examples;
58. UNDERLINE that a concerted effort is required across the entire value chain, by addressing a new Earth data policy:
- through the availability of adequate data for information extraction;
  - driven by the needs of potential users from all parts of European economy, administration and science;
  - built on innovation through multi-disciplinary and network approaches through dedicated/thematic calls and dedicated entities/institutions and infrastructures (including those dedicated to the collection, storage and analyses of data);
  - through the creation of markets to pick up said innovation across the European Union;

59. SUPPORT the extension of Earth observation data towards higher spectral, temporal and spatial resolution, using planned and future generations of satellites, designed and developed based on users' needs, and by teaming with public or private European existing systems;
60. SUPPORT that the use of artificial intelligence for data analysis should be extended to enable a disruptive development in the space sector with the creation of new Earth observation products and markets and important economic growth, which directly translates in benefits for European citizens;
61. MANDATE the European Space Agency and the European Commission to define together after consultation of the Copernicus User Forum the characteristics of a hub of Copernicus extended data, stored in a European sovereign cloud, to be foreseen to protect European strategic autonomy and to allow gathering models for artificial intelligence and data analytics;
62. SUPPORT an associated update/evolution of the Copernicus open and free data policy to be addressed to cope with the easy incorporation of such big data, coming also from the "private" and commercial data;
63. CALL on the European Commission to reinforce its efforts for making best use of the full potential of space for the implementation of the EU sector policies, in particular (1) by devising its actions in the area of space based on user needs and (2) by reinforcing the use of space throughout all relevant departments and agencies and through increasing the corresponding dialogue to that effect;
64. UNDERLINE the importance of Space-Oceans-Climate interactions and the need for emphasis to be placed in the field of space to cooperate with Africa to deal with the climate change; and STRESS that space can contribute to the partnership with Africa thus implementing the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the EU Africa Strategy by addressing the prospects and challenges that emerge from climate and environmental changes to ensure sustainable development and economic growth as well as stability on the African continent;

## The future of European Space

65. COORDINATE the industrial policy measures of the European Union and the European Space Agency and joint actions necessary to ensure synergies and complementarity, especially in the following areas:
- EU space programme benefitting from technical expertise developed by public funds, fostering synergies with other EU programmes, including the new Instrument for Recovery and Resilience, European Structural and Cohesion Funds, as well as the European centralized funds (Horizon Europe, EU Space Program and Digital Europe Program) and InvestEU;
  - optional programmes of the European Space Agency as precursor to European Union space activities;
  - cross fertilisation between the European Union, the European Space Agency and Member States space activities;
  - securing the preference of European launch services;
  - developing and supporting downstream activities.
66. COORDINATE future actions of European Space Policy: interaction EU-ESA beyond 2020, in particular towards visible ambitious targets, to be achieved by 2030:
- (a) joint downstream activities covering various space programmes of Member States, the European Union and the European Space Agency, when possible through prizes/grants to be attributed to SMEs or laboratories;
  - (b) joint space debris European technological and operational approach of space debris observation, management and removal, developing on precursor activities of the European Space Agency in those areas: Clean Space initiative, R&D on debris removal, in-orbit servicing, in-orbit recycling and set common basic practices about end-of-life management and responsibilities.
  - (c) full implication of the space domain in the "Digital Twin Earth" European initiative, in terms of an interactive replica of our planet in the digital domain based on the integration of different sources, such as the above-mentioned Copernicus data hub, and science-based decision support capabilities.

- (d) fleet management recommendations to allow inter-operability and integration of systems in diverse orbits/altitudes (as well as space-terrestrial system integration).
- (e) fly European for institutional missions and players and consider establishing incentives for European commercial payloads and actors.

67. ENCOURAGE the European Commission and the ESA Executive to jointly work with their respective Member States to prepare the Decision Point 2021 for the Copernicus Space Component, with the goal to ensure the continuation of the current six Sentinel missions through a new generation to be launched in the early 2030s and, at the same time, ensure that all six new Copernicus High Priority Candidate Missions (HPCMs) are fully developed up to launch and in-orbit operation. These HPCM missions address new policy priorities focused on ocean, biodiversity, ice, Africa, Arctic and climate change and are crucial to meet Europe's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and support the European digital agenda. The European Commission and ESA are therefore requested to prepare a funding proposal within 4 months within the limits of the given total budget, together with an updated draft architecture of the Copernicus Space Component that would allow a full implementation. This proposal shall be presented to a next Space Council for consultation. This feedback will be an important guidance for the decision point scheduled in the second half of 2021.

68. DEVELOP initiatives and attract investments by:

- leveraging on public-private and public-public partnerships, co-investment, venture capital funds and the European Investment Bank capacities to speed-up time to market for new space technologies and applications,
- promote intellectual property rights policies favouring private investment,
- industrial standardisation and digitalisation to promote efficiency and mitigate technical risks in space development projects;

69. INVITE the European Commission and Director-General of the European Space Agency to report to the Councils of the European Union and the European Space Agency on the above objectives and in particular:

Measures to be revisited in 1 year:

- increased synergies between multiple EU funding sources,
- increased possible percentage of co-funding for companies,

- facilitation of partial payments,
- facilitation of new advance payments,

Measures to be kept:

- full digitilisation of tendering processes and shortening of the time-to-contract,
- reducing time-to-payment,
- increase upper limit of grants for lean approval processes.

