

Dear space enthusiasts, Dear space friends,

Keep in mind that Space is a key; that Space is tool!

### **Space is a key!**

- A key for the development of innovative technologies, to make everybody's life easier, greener and safer
- A key for the development of knowledge, in many disciplines, from earth to planetary science
- A key, to explain the origin and understanding the evolution of our planet, our universe
- A key to inspire next generations to nurture their curiosity and thrive in their careers.

### **Space is also a tool!**

- A reliable monitoring and forecasting instrument with many concrete solutions on energy, agriculture, forestry and water management, transport, maritime, health, risk and disaster management, climate change, etc..
- A useful tool that meets specific national needs and discretely omnipresent in our daily lives creating benefits in many aspects for civil society.
- A helpful tool supporting economic growth, generating new direct and indirect highly skilled and qualified jobs for every country
- A beneficial tool for communities new to space, to encourage innovative uses of satellite solutions to respond to countries' challenges

More than ever, space has become an essential ally for our economy, our security, our independence and for the well-being of civil society.

## **But do we have a role to play as politicians? We are not engineers!**

We have a role to play!

- If the engineers' role is to conceive, design and build new instruments, pioneering technologies,
- Politicians have the responsibility to be forward-looking, to define strategies and actions that lead the way, to grow, evolve and prosper their own country.

Today dear Colleagues, we cannot not be absent from such an important economic sector counting globally for billions of dollars and showing incredibly fast growth rates increasing steadily year over year. A sector that by definition is intertwined with Defence and Security of our states!

Be convinced, Space goes in the same direction as history does, it is in continuous evolution.

Space represents a major jump in the development of our societies as once were writing, electricity, train, computer, ...

### **Dear Excellencies, Ministers and Colleagues,**

It's because I'm a space enthusiast that I'm more than pleased to welcome you all to this thirteen MMoP Meeting in the marvellous city of Baku where I have been many times some years ago with 2 projects that I launched « Peace needs a women touch» and "Space for peace"

Unfortunately, some of our colleagues decided to cancel their trip to Baku due to the political situation, I understand their position. I'm sad with this situation because I have many friends in Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia.

As far as I am concerned, I am with the IAF and the Bureau, which are making enormous efforts for a cooperating space world for the benefit of humanity.

For this, I would like to sincerely thank Christian Feichtinger for having understood the need to involve politicians in this huge Congress and to organise a meeting dedicated to us.

A warm thank to his dynamic team and to him for his foresight!

I would like to thank my Co-Chair

- Tahir Mirkishili, Chairman of Committee for Economic Policy, Industries and Enterprising, Milli Majlis - Parliament of Azerbaijan from our hosted country

- Claudia Taffuri, Ambassador of Italy in Azerbaijan, Italy will be our hosted country for the IAC 2024.

A truly thank goes to our space experts always beside us.

**Before concluding. Just a word about the goal and challenge, we pursue**

**Our goal** is to make Space accessible, understandable for all. Here there is no technic!

Here we seize synergies, share experiences, good practices on space solutions

Here, we motivate and inspire each other, we address topics in direct relation to our concerns.

Our meeting is an exceptional source of ideas for operational space solutions and the accomplishment of national priorities and cities management.

This is the reason why our Meeting is unique! It's the only meeting – all over the world, across all continents- where Ministers and Parliamentarians together exchange views on their space strategies and relevant space solutions in their countries!

Here, it's "The place to be"!!

**Our challenge**

Is making the MMoP meeting, the place for **all** countries.

Not only for developed countries, but also a powerful engine of prosperity for emerging countries.

That's why our motto is "What is possible in your country, might be in mine too".

### **What do we expect and have to offer you?**

- we expect from Ministers to illustrate their country's space strategy, main priorities, and actions.
- from parliamentarians, we expect to present relevant examples of space solutions and their specific challenges
- for others, just listen and be inspired from the experiences of the colleagues.

### **What we offer you!**

The opportunity to highlight your country, to showcase you in your Parliament, your Commissions, your social media with the recordings and photos that you will receive at the end of the Congress.

Dear Excellencies and Colleagues,  
This is our MMoP meeting  
These are our goals and challenges!

Now you are in the driving seats, you'll make the MMoP Meeting.  
The floor is yours;

I wish you a fruitful Meeting!