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INVITATION CIRCULAR

To: Member States of the United Nations and the European Union

From: United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

Subject: Space4Women: Landmark Study on Gender Equality in the Space Sector – Phase 2

- 1. Space4Women is a project of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs to help address the gender gap, to strengthen awareness, capacity and skills of individuals and organizations, to advance gender equality, and to provide access to opportunities in STEM education and the space sector to women and girls across the globe.
- 2. Building on recommendations from past Space4Women expert meetings, UNOOSA has launched the Landmark Study on Gender Equality in the Space Sector. Thanks to the participation of numerous public sector space organizations, the first phase of the study has produced the very first comprehensive survey of gender representation in space agencies and other space-related public organizations. It also examined policies or interventions taken by organizations to advance gender equality.
- 3. The second phase of the study will focus on the qualitative aspects of women's experience while entering and progressing in the space sector. The scope of the analysis is also extended to the private sector, including women entrepreneurship in space. Through two surveys, UNOOSA seeks to collect: (i) gender representation data in private sector space organizations; and (ii) qualitative data on women's experiences in the space sector, their pathway to and within the sector, and their workplace conditions.
- 4. All <u>Member States of the United Nations</u> are invited to share information about this study with their space sector to encourage voluntary participation in both surveys. The enclosed document includes all information related to the study, including the links to the surveys.
- 5. The Space4Women Landmark Study on Gender Equality in the Space Sector is made possible through financial support from the Republic of Korea. Further information on the Project may be found on the website space4women.unoosa.org. Requests for further information should be addressed to anne-claire.grossias@un.org, elise.stephenson@un.org and space4women@un.org.