

16-408

# وكالة الإمارات للفضاء UAE SPACE AGENCY

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**Ms. Marlene H. Dortch**  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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## Subject: Comments of the UAE Space Agency on Space Debris

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing on behalf of The United Arab Emirates Space Agency (UAESA); a federal agency responsible for the development of the country's space industry. Created in 2014, UAESA is working on developing a world-class national space sector, promoting scientific research and innovation, and enhancing an international cooperation and partnership that supports the sector's sustainable development and high-quality standards and transparency.

The UAESA has noticed with care The FCC focus on space debris and the responsible use of space (e.g. **IB Docket No. 16-408**) and we would like to offer our support for your taking this matter seriously. As space is a shared natural resource among all nations we welcome your deep concerns towards the possible pollution of space, in particular the Low Earth Orbit regions.

This year, during 6-9 November, the UAE will be hosting the UN/UAE High Level Forum: Space as a Driver for Socio-Economic Sustainable Development where some of the exact topics you are considering will be discussed in an international context. We invite you and your staff to attend and participate in this discussion in the hopes that all countries may arrive on a consensus on numerous issues related to the peaceful use of outer space, including space debris, and protection of those on the ground.

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ص.ب 7133 أبوظبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة

PO Box 7133 Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

T +971 2 202 2222 F +971 2 202 2000

As we see numerous potential constellation filings we are also concerned that many of these filings are overlapping and could create long term safety issues. To this extent we were pleased to see the industries approach to a 'safety buffer zone' between altitudes. We are also looking forward to the results of several ongoing studies on this topic which will help inform our viewpoints.

The UAE is in the process of updating its own Space Law and we would enjoy working together to build a cohesive set of Space Rules across the world which would ultimately benefit all of us, as well as spur the growth of space by creating a standardized framework for development.

We do hope you and the other US space related agencies including NASA and the FAA will consider joining us in November at the High-Level Forum so we may learn from each other on these significant and pressing issues.

Yours Sincerely,

  
**Dr. Eng. Mohammed N. Al Ahbabi**  
Director General



Cc:

- Executive Director of Space Sector
- Director of Space Policy & Regulations

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