

crease of his knowledge and the improvement of his life,

Noting the success of the scientific co-operative programme of the International Geophysical Year in the exploration of outer space and the decision to continue and expand this type of co-operation,

Believing that the development of programmes of international and scientific co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space should be vigorously pursued,

Believing that progress in this field will materially help to achieve the aim that outer space should be used for peaceful purposes only,

Desiring to obtain the fullest information on the many problems relating to the peaceful uses of outer space before recommending specific programmes of international co-operation in this field,

1. Establishes an ad hoc committee on the peaceful uses of outer space consisting of the representatives of _____ and requests it to report to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session on the following:

(a) The activities and resources of the United Nations, of its specialized agencies, and of other international bodies relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

(b) The area of international co-operation and programmes in the peaceful uses of outer space which could appropriately be undertaken under United Nations auspices to the benefit of States irrespective of the stage of their economic or scientific development;

(c) The future United Nations organizational arrangements to facilitate international co-operation in this field;

(d) The nature of legal problems which may arise in the carrying out of programmes to explore outer space;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to render appropriate assistance to the above-named committee and to recommend any other steps that might be taken within the existing United Nations framework to encourage the fullest international co-operation for the peaceful uses of outer space.

DOCUMENT A/C.1/L.224/REV.1

Burma, India and United Arab Republic: revised draft resolution

*[Original text: English]
[24 November 1958]*

The First Committee,

Considering the urgent need to take positive and constructive steps in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space,

Requests the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to consider this matter and to report to the First Committee of the General Assembly on an urgent basis on an agreed and practical approach to this problem.

DOCUMENT A/4009

Report of the First Committee

*[Original text: English]
[28 November 1958]*

1. On 15 March 1958, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requested (A/3818) the inclusion in the agenda of the thirteenth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled:

"The banning of the use of cosmic space for military purposes, the elimination of foreign military bases on the territories of other countries and international co-operation in the study of cosmic space".

An explanatory memorandum was forwarded with the document.

2. On 2 September 1958, the United States of America requested (A/3902) the inclusion in the agenda of the thirteenth session of an item entitled "Programme for international co-operation in the field of outer space", and forwarded an explanatory memorandum.

3. At the 752nd plenary meeting on 22 September, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the items proposed by the USSR and the United States as sub-items (a) and (b) of item 60 entitled "Question of the peaceful use of outer space", and referred it to the First Committee for consideration and report.

4. The Committee considered the item at its 981st to 995th meetings, held from 11 to 24 November 1958.

5. On 7 November, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.219) whereby the General Assembly would recognize the necessity for concluding an agreement to prohibit the launching of rockets into cosmic space for military purposes and to eliminate all foreign military bases on the territories of other countries, such agreement to be based on the following principles:

(1) A ban on the use of cosmic space for military purposes and an undertaking by States to launch rockets into cosmic space only under an agreed international programme;

(2) The elimination of foreign military bases, primarily in Europe, the Near and Middle East, and North Africa;

(3) The establishment within the framework of the United Nations of appropriate international control over the implementation of the obligations set forth above;

(4) The establishment of a United Nations agency for international co-operation in the study of cosmic space which could have the following functions: (a) to work out an agreed international programme for launching intercontinental and space rockets with the aim of studying cosmic space and to supervise the implementation of this programme; (b) to continue on a permanent basis the cosmic-space research now being carried on within the framework of the International Geophysical Year; (c) to serve as a world centre for the collection, mutual exchange and dissemination of information on cosmic-space research; (d) to co-ordinate national research programmes for the study of cosmic space and to render all possible assistance towards their realization.

6. At the 983rd meeting on 13 November, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Denmark, France, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Turkey, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.220) whereby the General Assembly would:

(1) Establish an ad hoc committee on the peaceful uses of outer space consisting of the representatives of and request it to report to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session on the following:

(a) The activities and resources of the United Nations, of its specialized agencies, and of other international bodies relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

(b) The area of international co-operation and programmes in the peaceful uses of outer space which could appropriately be undertaken under United Nations auspices to the benefit of States irrespective of the stage of their economic or scientific development;

(c) The future United Nations organizational arrangements to facilitate international co-operation in this field;

(d) The nature of legal problems which may arise in the carrying out of programmes to explore outer space;

(2) Request the Secretary-General to render appropriate assistance to the above-named committee and to recommend any other steps that might be taken within the existing United Nations framework to encourage the fullest international co-operation for the peaceful uses of outer space.

7. At the 989th meeting on 18 November, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a revised version (A/C.1/L.219/Rev.1) of its draft resolution whereby the General Assembly would:

(1) Recommend the establishment within the framework of the United Nations of an international committee for co-operation in the study of cosmic space for peaceful purposes;

(2) Recommend the establishment of a preparatory group consisting of Argentina, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Poland, Romania, Sweden, the USSR, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States, to draft the programme and rules of the proposed committee;

(3) Recommend that, in its work, the preparatory group should proceed on the basis that the committee should have the following functions:

(a) To continue on a permanent basis the cosmic-space research now being carried on in connexion with the International Geophysical Year;

(b) To organize the mutual exchange and dissemination of information on cosmic-space research;

(c) To co-ordinate national research programmes for the study of cosmic space and to render all possible assistance in the realization thereof;

(4) Request the preparatory group to report on the results of its work to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session;

(5) Recommend that, upon its establishment, the committee should decide on an appropriate form of agreement providing for a close relationship with the United Nations.

8. On 21 November, a revised version (A/C.1/L.220/Rev.1) of the twenty-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.220) was submitted changing operative paragraph 1 of the original draft (see above, para. 6) as follows:

(a) The names of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Sweden, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and the United States were inserted as members of the ad hoc committee;

(b) In paragraph 1(b) the words "the stage of their economic or scientific development" were replaced by the following: "the state of their economic or scientific development, taking into account the following proposals, inter alia:"

"(i) Continuation on a permanent basis of the outer space research now being carried on within the framework of the International Geophysical Year;

"(ii) Organization of mutual exchange and dissemination of information on outer space research; and

"(iii) Co-ordination of national research programmes for the study of outer space, and the rendering of all possible assistance and help towards their realization;"

(c) Paragraph 1(c) was revised to read:

"The future organizational arrangements to facilitate international co-operation in this field within the framework of the United Nations".

9. At the 995th meeting on 24 November, Burma, India and the United Arab Republic submitted a draft resolution which in its revised form (A/C.1/L.224/Rev.1) provided that the First Committee would request the USSR and the United States to consider the urgent need to take positive and constructive steps in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space, and to report to the First Committee on an urgent basis on an agreed and practical approach to this problem.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee voted on the draft resolutions before it, having decided, without objection, to give priority in voting to the three-Power draft. The results of the voting were as follows:

(a) The three-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.224/Rev.1) was rejected by a roll-call vote of 25 to 14, with 42 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

A/101/10-11

In favour: Albania, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic, France, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, Greece, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

(b) The representative of the USSR said that the Soviet draft resolution (A/C.1/L.219/Rev.1) had been submitted as a basis for a unanimous decision and that if no unanimous decision was in sight his delegation would not put its proposal to a vote.

(c) The twenty-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.220/Rev.1) was voted upon as follows:

(i) Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by a roll-call vote of 51 to 9, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica,

Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Federation of Malaya, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Laos, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Albania, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Austria, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, United Arab Republic, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

(ii) The first paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 67 votes to 9, with 2 abstentions.

(iii) The draft resolution as a whole was then adopted by 54 votes to 9, with 18 abstentions.

Recommendation of the First Committee

11. The First Committee therefore recommends the adoption by the General Assembly of the following draft resolution:

[Text adopted by the General Assembly without change. See "Action taken by the General Assembly" below.]

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At its 792nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 1958, the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution submitted by the First Committee (A/4009, para. 11). For the final text, see resolution 1348 (XIII) below.

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

✓ 1348 (XIII). QUESTION OF THE PEACEFUL USE OF OUTER SPACE

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of mankind in outer space and recognizing that it is the common aim that outer space should be used for peaceful purposes only,

Bearing in mind the provision of Article 2, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, which states that the Organization is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its Members,

Wishing to avoid the extension of present national rivalries into this new field,

Desiring to promote energetically the fullest exploration and exploitation of outer space for the benefit of mankind,

Conscious that recent developments in respect of outer space have added a new dimension to man's

existence and opened new possibilities for the increase of his knowledge and the improvement of his life,

Noting the success of the scientific co-operative programme of the International Geophysical Year in the exploration of outer space and the decision to continue and expand this type of co-operation,

Recognizing the great importance of international co-operation in the study and utilization of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Considering that such co-operation will promote mutual understanding and the strengthening of friendly relations among peoples,

Believing that the development of programmes of international and scientific co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space should be vigorously pursued,

Believing that progress in this field will materially help to achieve the aim that outer space should be used for peaceful purposes only,

Considering that an important contribution can be made by the establishment within the framework of the United Nations of an appropriate international