

(Mr. Prat Gay, Argentina)

extend the term of office of the United Nations Expert to three years, since a longer term could only be to the benefit of his work.

In relation to the financial aspects, we would venture to urge the Expert to make the optimum use of the funds allocated to him. But we also believe that if the plans he submits to us are concrete and worth-while, an increase in the budget necessary for carrying them out would be justified.

In conclusion, I wish to state our gratitude for the recommendation made by the Committee to the effect that the United Nations should continue to sponsor the experiments being carried on at the CELPA Base at Mar Chiquita.

I wish to report that many activities have been scheduled for 1975 within the framework of the principles for training and international co-operation in regard to scientific and technological space exploration for peaceful purposes. We hope that this Assembly will ratify that recommendation.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): Before adjourning the meeting, I wish to announce that in accordance with our decision at yesterday's meeting, the list of speakers in the general debate was closed at noon today.

The meeting rose at 1.00 p.m.



UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



PROVISIONAL

A/C.1/PV.1989
14 October 1974

ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth Session

FIRST COMMITTEE

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 14 October 1974, at 3 p.m.

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| <u>Chairman:</u> | Mr. ORTIZ de ROZAS | (Argentina) |
| <u>Rapporteur:</u> | Mr. da COSTA LOBO | (Portugal) |

- International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space /32/ (continued)
- Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space /33/ (continued)

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AS THIS RECORD WAS DISTRIBUTED ON 15 OCTOBER 1974, THE TIME-LIMIT FOR CORRECTIONS WILL BE 18 OCTOBER 1974.

The co-operation of delegations in strictly observing this time-limit would be greatly appreciated.

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AGENDA ITEMS 32 AND 33 (continued)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE USE BY STATES OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES FOR DIRECT TELEVISION BROADCASTING:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

(A/9620)

Mr. ISSRAELYAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The First Committee has proceeded to the consideration of the question of international co-operation in the use of outer space for peaceful purposes. Since the very beginning of our space age hardly two decades have elapsed, but progress in the conquest of space in these years has been so great that it has even surpassed the boldest scientific forecasts and even science fiction. At the present time we can with every justification state that in the future, work on the conquest of space will go on at an ever-increasing tempo.

In the last year in the Soviet Union, in accordance with the directives of the Twenty-Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, under the five-year plan the planned implementation of scientific work in space has continued for the purpose of developing long-range telephone and telegraphic communications, television, weather forecasting, the study of natural resources by means of satellites and also for tackling other economic tasks. Fundamental scientific research has been continued regarding outer space and the planets of the solar system. Included among the most noteworthy events in the field of space research in the last year are the following: the launching in the summer of 1973 from Earth to Mars of four unmanned spacecraft for the purpose of comprehensive research concerning the red planet of Mars; and sending into lunar orbit in June 1974 of the automatic station Luna 22 designed for the continuation of research on the gravitational field of the Moon. The Soviet Union has successfully been continuing its programme of manned space flights. Last year manned spacecraft - Soyuz 12 and

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

Soyuz 13 - were sent into orbit. A great number of experiments were carried out on board those crafts in furtherance of the study of outer space, and also experiments that are of great significance for the national economy. Those included research into the natural resources of the earth, the earth structure and so on.

In accordance with the programme of space research of 25 June this year, our country launched an orbital scientific station, Salyut 3.

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

As is well known, one of the most effective and promising directions of the work connected with the conquest of space is research into outer space from space stations and the solution, by means of those stations, of a whole range of important scientific problems.

On 3 July the spacecraft Soyuz-14, piloted by two astronauts, was placed in operation. Those astronauts successfully docked their spacecraft with the scientific station Salyut-3 and carried out scientific experiments for many days on board that spacecraft.

A feature of the current stage of space research is the ever-increasing practical use being made of the work conducted in outer space for the purposes of economic development. The activities conducted in space are becoming a form of every-day, practical human work designed to accomplish concrete economic scientific, technological, cultural and educational tasks.

The scope and variety of the scientific and practical tasks performed in that way make it urgently necessary to widen the range of co-operation among States, particularly since, in the final analysis, all mankind will be able to benefit from the fruits of space research. The development of scientific and technological co-operation in general and space research in particular encourages the creation of a sound basis for the peaceful coexistence of States with different political and social systems. It demonstrates that despite ideological conflicts and social and economic differences States can engage in fruitful scientific and technological co-operation on the basis of the principles of the peaceful coexistence of States.

The Soviet Union is co-operating fruitfully with many States that desire to make their contribution to the common cause of the study and conquest of space. Relations of business-like and mutually advantageous co-operation link us firmly with States of the socialist community. Through their collective efforts, these States are carrying out a broad range of scientific research projects, known as Intercosmos.

For many years now the two leading space Powers, the Soviet Union and the United States, have been doing fruitful research in outer space. An important event of great international significance was the signing in 1972, during the Soviet-American summit meeting, of the Soviet-American agreement

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

on co-operation in research into and the use of outer space for peaceful purposes. As all members of the Committee know full well, that agreement is being successfully put into effect. In order to ensure the greatest security, the agreement provides, inter alia, for the creation of joint means and devices for the docking of spacecraft and space stations piloted by Soviet and American astronauts. Preparations for the joint space flight of the spaceships Soyuz and Apollo, to take place in the summer of 1975, are going on apace, in a business-like atmosphere. There have been several meetings between the Soviet and American astronauts who will be taking part in that flight, and also between the specialists who are making the preparations for this unique experiment. Last month there was a meeting between Soviet and American astronauts at the Houston Space Center. This was not just an occasion for the astronauts to become acquainted with each other; rather, the working days were filled with training in transferring from one craft to another and other necessary tasks. The carrying out of the Soyuz-Apollo project is an important step in the development of joint work in space by the two leading space Powers and, of course, opens up broad prospects for the strengthening of international co-operation as a whole.

For many years now the Soviet Union has been engaged in a successful programme of joint space endeavours with India, France and a number of other countries.

I should like now to turn specifically to the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space now before us. An analysis of that document gives grounds for the conclusion that the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its organs have done some important and, on the whole, fruitful work over the past year.

One of the most important results of the Committee's work has been the preparation and presentation for the approval of this General Assembly of a draft convention on the registration of objects launched into outer space. We note with satisfaction that the long and hard work on this draft has now been successfully concluded. Agreement on the provisions of the draft convention was achieved thanks to the good will shown by the States members of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. That

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

provides a very positive example for the constructive solution, on the basis of mutually accepted compromises, of complex problems related to the conquest of outer space. We believe that the agreed draft convention, as presented for the approval of the First Committee and the plenary Assembly, meets the interests of the various groups of States and therefore can be adopted without any changes.

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

As for the second priority item on the agenda of the Legal Sub-Committee of the United Nations Outer Space Committee, that is to say, the draft treaty on the moon, we are obliged to note with regret that the work done over the last year has not yet led to any substantial progress towards that end. The reason for this, in our view, is, I would say, the unrealistic approach of certain States towards the solution of the problems arising in this area, and in particular the desire to include in the draft treaty certain problems which are by no means of the highest priority or decisive in nature. The Soviet delegation considers that the work on the draft treaty on the moon is the matter of highest priority on the agenda of the Legal Sub-Committee and the Outer-Space Committee and should be speedily completed. For our part, the Soviet delegation once again would like to confirm its readiness to do everything in its power to further the attainment of that goal in a spirit of good will and co-operation. On that basis, the Soviet delegation believes that the General Assembly has every ground for instructing the United Nations Committee on Outer Space to complete its work of agreeing on a draft treaty on the moon as soon as possible.

The United Nations Outer Space Committee and its organs have also held a considerable number of useful discussions on matters involved in the legal regulation of space activities in the field of direct television broadcasting, and we welcome the fact that the Legal Sub-Committee has undertaken the concrete formulation of appropriate draft principles for the purpose of concluding an international agreement or agreements in accordance with the terms of resolution 2916 (XXVII) of the United Nations General Assembly. This is only a first step that has been taken; still, it is an important step and a step in the right direction.

The Soviet delegation considers the problem of regulating activities in direct television broadcasting one of the most important problems in contemporary space law, and the General Assembly should call upon the Outer Space Committee to devote to this matter its unremitting attention. We consider it necessary to stress that, in our view, the Legal Sub-Committee is the body that should perform this responsible task, as it has already been doing. In the view of

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

the Soviet delegation, the Working Group on direct television broadcasting, at its meetings, has already exhaustively discussed the technical, economic and social aspects of direct television broadcasting and has thus performed its tasks.

Finally, the Outer-Space Committee held an interesting exchange of views on problems involved in regulating activities in the field of the remote sensing of the earth. A positive element in that discussion was the introduction of a joint Soviet-French draft of principles in that area. The Soviet delegation has always consistently favoured the idea that it is necessary to prepare an international legal document regulating activities in the remote sensing of the earth, and considers that this question is one that likewise merits priority in the work of the Legal Sub-Committee. We are ready to engage in the broadest possible exchange of views with interested delegations in order to accelerate the production of such a document.

In assessing the results of the work of the Working Group on remote sensing, which submitted its final report to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, we are inclined to conclude that it also has done its job. In the view of the Soviet delegation, further consideration of the technical and organizational aspects of remote sensing should be carried on directly in the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee. In this, we proceed from the premise that both Sub-Committees of the United Nations Committee on Outer Space should take directly an active part in coping with all the multifarious problems involved in the conquest of outer space. This would eliminate the existing fragmentation of effort within the Committee and remove the difficulties arising, in the case of many delegations, in connexion with the convening of sessions and the holding of meetings of too many auxiliary working groups.

These are some comments we thought it necessary to make here in the First Committee on the report of the Committee on Outer Space.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I have no more speakers inscribed on my list. Does any delegation wish to speak at this time?

In the absence of any request to speak, I should like to draw the attention of the Committee to a rather anomalous situation. As you will have observed, the

(The Chairman)

meeting that was scheduled for this morning had to be cancelled because of the fact that no delegation had inscribed its name for the general debate. This afternoon we have heard only the representative of the Soviet Union. All this means not only substantial material expenditures but, what is at least as important or even more important, appropriating the services of a good part of the United Nations personnel for the First Committee and thereby depriving other Committees, which might perhaps otherwise have been able to meet and move ahead with their work, of the opportunity to do so.

I therefore need hardly point out the variety of inconveniences that result from the lack of statements by representatives. But let it be understood that I am not encouraging delegations to speak in the general debate. Furthermore, perhaps we may some day reach a stage, most beneficial indeed for the United Nations, in which draft resolutions may come to a vote without any general debate. Perhaps the First Committee is at this time acting as the pioneer in this new direction the Organization may be taking, one that would indeed save a great deal of time. What I am appealing for is that delegations which know that sooner or later they will be speaking in the debate, be so good as to inform the Secretariat of that fact. This will enable us properly to schedule the order of our meetings.

In this connexion, therefore, I repeat that the Secretariat is now ready to accept any requests to speak and to inscribe the names on the list of speakers.

(The Chairman)

I propose that the list of speakers for these items be closed tomorrow at noon. Delegations which have not inscribed their names by that time will be considered as not wishing to participate in the general debate. As I said earlier, this will enable us to organize our work properly.

If there is no objection, the list of speakers for these two items will be closed tomorrow at noon.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): Finally, I should like also to remind the Committee that we have a request from the President of the General Assembly that, in so far as possible, we adhere to the time-table and the dates the Committee agreed upon for the beginning and conclusion of each and every item allocated to the Committee. It is my intention faithfully to comply with this request of the President of the General Assembly.

May I therefore remind the Committee that at the latest next Friday, 18 October, we shall conclude our entire consideration of the two items pertaining to outer space.

The meeting rose at 3.55 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
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PROVISIONAL

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11 October 1974

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Twenty-ninth Session

FIRST COMMITTEE

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 11 October 1974, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. ORTIZ de ROZAS (Argentina)
Rapporteur: Mr. da COSTA LOBO (Portugal)

- International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space [32]
- Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space [33]

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