31/8. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3386 (XXX) of 18 November 1975,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, 1/

Reaffirming the common interest of mankind in furthering the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and in extending to States the benefits derived therefrom as well as the importance of international co-operation in this field, for which the United Nations should provide a focal point, as expressed in General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI) of 20 December 1961,

Reaffirming the importance of international co-operation in developing the rule of law in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

Welcoming the entry into force on 15 September 1976 of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space, 2/

1. Endorses the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

2. Invites States which have not yet become parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space to accede to it and to the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space.


2/ General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex.
(iii) To give detailed consideration to the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space, with the particular aim of formulating draft principles on the basis of common elements identified by it;

(b) Pursue its work on questions relating to the definition and/or delimitation of outer space and outer space activities in the remaining time available;

5. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on its thirteenth session, 5/ which, inter alia:

(a) Examines further the question of remote sensing of the earth from space, as set out in paragraphs 25 to 61 of the report, considering in detail both the current pre-operational/experimental as well as the possible future global/operational phase of remote sensing system or systems;

(b) Continues in effect the United Nations programme on space applications;

(c) Provides for further study of a possible United Nations conference on outer space matters;

6. Recommends that the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee should continue at its fourteenth session its work on the matters before it, giving priority to the three items contained in paragraph 72 of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

7. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that full utilization be made by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies of their existing terms of reference with regard to the establishment of an appropriate co-ordinating role for the United Nations in the field of remote sensing;

8. Further endorses the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee at its fourteenth session, should:

(a) Undertake the various studies and reports on remote sensing of the earth from space, as referred to in paragraph 42 of the report of the Committee;

(b) Prepare a study in depth on the question of convening a United Nations conference on space matters, as referred to in paragraphs 55 and 56 of that report.

5/ A/AC.105/170.
(g) Request Member States to provide information on programmes or plans for the generation or transmission of solar energy by means of space technology, as referred to in paragraph 72 of that report;

9. **Endorses** the United Nations programme on space applications for 1977, as referred to in paragraph 46 of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

10. **Approves** continuing sponsorship by the United Nations of the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station in India and the CILSA Mar del Plata Station in Argentina and expresses its satisfaction at the work being carried out at those ranges in the peaceful and scientific exploration of outer space;

11. **Reiterates** its request to the World Meteorological Organization to pursue actively the implementation of its tropical cyclone project while continuing and intensifying its other related action programmes, including World Weather Watch and, especially, the efforts being undertaken towards obtaining basic meteorological data and discovering ways and means to mitigate the harmful effects of tropical storms and to remove or minimize their destructive potential, and looks forward to its report thereon in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

12. **Requests** the specialized agencies to provide the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with progress reports on their work, including particular problems in the fields within their competence relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General, in the light of paragraph 73 of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to consider strengthening the Outer Space Affairs Division of the Secretariat;

14. **Notes** the invitation extended by the Government of Austria to hold the twentieth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at Vienna in 1977 and accepts that invitation with appreciation;

15. **Requests** the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work, as set out in the present and previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-second session.

57th plenary meeting
9 November 1976