

31 March 2008

English only

**Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space**
Legal Subcommittee
Forty-seventh session
31 March - 11 April 2008

Questions on the definition and delimitation of outer space: reply from Azerbaijan

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its forty-sixth session, in 2007, the Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed to continue to address to Member States the following questions:

(a) Does your Government consider it necessary to define outer space and/or to delimit air space and outer space, given the current level of space and aviation activities and technological development in space and aviation technologies? Please provide a justification for the answer; or

(b) Does your Government consider another approach to solving this issue? Please provide a justification for the answer A/AC105/891, Annex II, para. 16 (f)).

2. By 21 January 2008 the Secretariat received replies from the following Member States: Belarus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Jordan, Nicaragua and Ukraine. The replies are reproduced in document A/AC.105/889/Add.1.

3. In February 2008 the Secretariat received a reply from Azerbaijan to the questions. The present document contains this reply. The submission of Azerbaijan will be published by the Secretariat in all official languages of the United Nations in document A/AC.105/889/Add.2.



Reply of Azerbaijan

[Original: Russian]

(a) It should be noted that this question has been a topic of discussion within United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for over 40 years and remains open to this day.

We believe that the delimitation of airspace and outer space is essential. In this regard, it is important to observe the principle of the full and exclusive sovereign right of States to the use of airspace located above their territory. At the same time, it is essential to bear in mind the provision contained in the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, under which States are free to explore and use outer space.

(b) For the Government of Azerbaijan, there is no other approach to resolving this question.
