



COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE

Legal Sub-Committee

PROPOSAL OF THE DELEGATION OF ITALY

Article 1

"Any Contracting State, or any international organization, which knows that personnel of a spacecraft have suffered accident, or are in distress, or have made an emergency landing shall

- (a) immediately notify the State in which the spacecraft is registered and the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
- (b) immediately make a public announcement by radio or through any other means of communication at its disposal."

Note. This text takes into account the texts submitted by the United States and the USSR.

- (a) It introduces a reference to international organizations;
- (b) for humanitarian reasons it refers to spacecraft in gener and not to "a spacecraft of another State", as in the USSR draft;
- (c) it refers to personnel (or crew) and not specifically to astronauts, since everyone on board has a right to assistance for humanitarian reasons;
- (d) the notification is to be made either to the State of registry or to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
- (e) the text should say "knows", and not "discovers";
- (f) like the Treaty of January 1967, the text should refer to the State of registry, and not the State which announced the launching.

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