



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.105/FV.32
8 December 1964

ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 4 November 1964, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman:

Mr. MATSCH

(Austria)

Report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee and reports
of ITU and WMO

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE (A/AC.105/20 and Add.1) AND REPORTS OF ITU (A/AC.105/L.11) AND WMO (A/AC.105/L.10/Rev.1), AND DOCUMENTS A/AC.105/L.12, L.13 and L.14

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC GROUP ESTABLISHED AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO VISIT THE ROCKET LAUNCHING SITE AT THUMBA (A/AC.105/17).

The CHAIRMAN: This morning the Committee will take up the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee on the work of its third session and the reports prepared by the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization, and, if convenient, the report on the Thumba international launching site. The recommendations of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee also cover this item of the Thumba launching site.

Before giving the floor to the first speaker, I would like to call on the Rapporteur who intends to make a short statement.

Mr. de CARVALEO SILOS (Brazil), Rapporteur, In accordance with the procedural proposal which I made yesterday and to which no objection was raised by the Committee, I suggest that we begin our consideration of the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee with paragraph 13. That would be the first paragraph of the Chapter on recommendations. In considering the recommendations the Committee could, I think, leave it to me as Rapporteur to make the necessary drafting changes. For example, in paragraph 16 it will obviously be necessary, if the recommendation is approved by the Committee, to replace the reference to the Sub-Committee by a reference to this Committee, and to make various consequential changes. Similar drafting changes will be necessary in the latter recommendations.

This procedure would leave the Committee free to concentrate on the substance of the recommendations instead of losing time on editorial changes.

The CHAIRMAN: The first speaker on the item before us is the representative of the United States of America.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): The first comments of my delegation are directed to paragraph 16 B of the recommendations on exchange of information of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee. We are agreeable to deferring comments if any representatives have remarks on the preceding paragraphs. Perhaps the Chairman will wish to determine whether representatives have remarks on preceding paragraphs.

The CHAIRMAN: I had in mind, before going into the text of the different paragraphs, to call upon those members who want to make specific comments on the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee which they have not made in the general debate. Therefore, if it is convenient, I would ask the representative of the United States whether he wants to make a specific comment on the recommendations included in the report or wait until we come to the specific recommendation, as suggested by the Rapporteur.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): We choose to wait before we make our specific comments paragraph by paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN: In that case I shall now call on the representative of the USSR.

Mr. BLAGONRAVOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We would wish to make a few comments on the reports of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, the World Meteorological Organization and the Telecommunications Union. In the documents presented for the consideration of our Committee there is clear evidence of the fact that during the period under consideration rapid progress in the peaceful exploration of outer space has been combined with successes in co-operation between the scientists of various countries in this area.

The recommendations prepared by the Sub-Committee, as a result of an all-round examination of the proposals which were introduced, has been aimed at

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

further extending international scientific co-operation and to create favourable conditions for its further development. One of the important orientations of this co-operation is the exchange of scientific information on the results of research, and also the popularization of the attainments of science and technology in the field of peaceful uses and exploration of outer space.

The Soviet Union does not spare any efforts in an all-round expansion of exchange of information on the scientific results of the exploration of outer space, so that the attainments of science in this field might serve the benefit of mankind as a whole. We consider that the nature of such information is fully subordinated to the problems of the peaceful uses of outer space, and experience has shown that a rather useful form of scientific exchange would be the holding of scientific symposia and conferences at which scientists would have the opportunity of exchanging the results and conclusions of their work.

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

In this connexion, the recommendations of the Sub-Committee concerning the convening in 1967 under the aegis of the United Nations of an international conference on outer space are worthy of consideration. We have already stated, both in the Sub-Committee and at our current session, that we consider that the holding of such a conference would be useful for assessing the activities of the first ten years of the cosmic era. The holding of three international conferences on atomic energy in recent years has shown the great value of that kind of scientific forum in the development of co-operation and the exchange of scientific information.

It stands to reason that participation in the preparation for the holding of such a conference on the exploration of the peaceful uses of outer space should include such competent organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations through which scientific co-operation in this area is being effected.

Representatives of certain countries here have already indicated certain doubts regarding the appropriateness of the holding of such a conference, and their considerations were based upon the fear of possible duplication in the discussion of identical measures with international scientific organizations which would result, therefore, in an unnecessary expenditure of effort and money. In this connexion, it was stated that such organizations as, for instance, COSPAR, have already planned corresponding measures for 1967. However, as the Vice-President of COSPAR, I know that so far this organization has limited itself to determining the plans of its activities up to 1966 only. We believe there will be no difficulty whatsoever for COSPAR, in particular, in the event of the adoption of a decision to organize such an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations, to bring the plans of its own work into line with this. If we were to invite these specialized agencies of the United Nations to participate in the preparation of the conference, one would eliminate not only duplication but, in the ultimate analysis, also obtain a general balancing out of all the events that might be envisaged for such a conference.

I shall not dwell in detail on the significance of such a conference. This has been well done by the representatives of the United Arab Republic, Lebanon, India, Bulgaria, Hungary and other countries.

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

As for the date for the convening of the conference, in the recommendations of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee there are specific indications regarding the year of 1967. Such a recommendation was made by the Sub-Committee as a result of the brilliant statement made by the representative of Austria in the Sub-Committee, who convincingly proved that 1967 was a worthy year for marking the tenth anniversary of the first resolute step in outer space as the beginning of the cosmic era. In this connexion, if this Committee were to act favourably on this recommendation of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, we should take into account the fact that 1967 is not far off, whereas life proceeds at a fast pace. We noted with interest that the views of the representative of Italy here regarding the need to create a working organ for the preparation of a conference in principle coincide with our own.

A good idea in this regard was put forward by the representative of India, who spoke of the possibility of entrusting this matter to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee. From our point of view, the most appropriate organ for such work would precisely be that Sub-Committee, whose agenda for the next year will not be too over-burdened. In addition to that, all the representatives of the various countries who have spoken here have spoken very highly of the work of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, and I have no doubt that in the future that Sub-Committee will similarly successfully cope with the tasks that are entrusted to it by this Committee.

It stands to reason that this Committee should give to the Sub-Committee an appropriately formulated proposal. If, however, the recommendation refers only to the consideration of the appropriateness of the convening of such a conference, then, as a result of certain circumstances, not only will 1967 have elapsed, but more time will have elapsed until the appropriateness of such a conference is decided upon.

Therefore, our proposal boils down to the consideration of the question of the appropriateness of convening such a conference and definitely deciding upon this at our present session, with the working organ or the Sub-Committee being entrusted with the task of establishing contact with such agencies as UNESCO, WMO, ITU, COSPAR, the interested scientific unions and organizations, and the International Astronautical Federation, to define within a given time limit the

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

character and the content of the conference and the participation in it of the above-mentioned organizations.

In proceeding to the question of the popularization of the attainments and the prospects of space research, we continue to consider that the most effective way of serving that cause would be the issuing of a series of popular pamphlets on the studies in outer space on specific and most highly topical problems, together with other topics of the greatest interest. However, we do not consider that our Committee and the United Nations as a whole should serve as a means of disseminating information the usefulness of which caused doubt in the course of the meetings of the Sub-Committee. A number of delegations expressed serious doubts about the appropriateness of including in the survey of organizations dealing with the peaceful uses of outer space information on the European organization for the development and construction of launching devices. Fear was expressed that the results of the work of ELDO, which is the rocket pool of the NATO countries, might be used for purposes which have nothing in common with the peaceful of outer space and which, first of all, might be exploited by the revenge-seeking forces of the Federal Republic of Germany, which is a leading member in that organization. Independently of whether it is or is not desired by other members of the organization and independently of the fact that the activity of ELDO is stated to be one that pursues peaceful purposes, during the period since the last session of the Sub-Committee our fears have not been dispelled in this connexion, but have been strengthened. Considering that the activities of our Committee are connected with the peaceful use of outer space, stress should be constantly be laid on the word "peaceful", and we are against anything that even indirectly might run counter to the significance of that word. We consider that the information on the activities of ELDO, which might generate potentially harmful consequences, should be excluded from the corresponding documents of the Committee.

The Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee at its previous session devoted attention to the training of specialists in the field of the exploration and peaceful use of outer space. This is perfectly understandable, since each year a greater number of countries are included in the family of those who pursue

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

activities in outer space, and we can but welcome this gratifying state of affairs. Research in outer space, by its very nature, is an international undertaking, and the greater the number of countries that make contributions to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, the better will be the co-operation and the more rapid will be the conquest of space in the interest of peace and prosperity.

For its part, the Soviet Union is prepared, on the basis of an agreement between the parties and countries concerned, to make available facilities to foreign students to study astronomy, physics and celestial economics in the Moscow, Kiev and Leningrad universities.

On the basis of the report of the scientists who studied the Thumba launching pad in India, the Sub-Committee recommended the placing of the launching platforms under the aegis of the United Nations. We fully support this, and we hope the Committee will be unanimously in favour of such a decision. The recommendation of the last session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee point to the fact that it is broadly utilized and takes into account the views of COSPAR.

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

In this connexion we should note the important work of the Advisory Group of COSPAR on potentially harmful effects of activities in outer space. It stands to reason that not all conclusions and proposals of the Group from the scientific point of view are conclusive and final, but are the result of compromise to a large extent.

Special attention on this occasion was devoted by the Group to the question of uncontrolled, upon various platforms, launching of living forms from earth by means of rockets into space. In this connexion there might be biological contamination, and this might threaten important biological research work and might distort the ecological situation; it might lead to erroneous conclusions regarding the chemical content of planets and the character and tempo of the evolution of organic matter outside earth.

The valuable considerations presented to the Scientific Committee by the scientific group of COSPAR shows how important and also how complex is this whole problem. The recommendations of the Advisory Group of COSPAR is definitely worthy of the greatest and most careful attention. It shows that to achieve progress in this important but not well studied area, it is necessary to carry out fundamental all round investigations and research.

At the same time we cannot agree with the opinions expressed here and in the Sub-Committee that the best way of solving this problem would be the holding in 1965 of an international conference for the study of technology and the methods of sterilization of space objects. It seems to us that such a conference should be more solidly prepared from the scientific point of view and should precede a more thorough analysis of the question under the aegis of COSPAR and the International Astronautical Federation. Perhaps it would be necessary to entrust to these organizations and also to the corresponding unions dealing with this problem at their next scientific sessions.

On the development of scientific co-operation during the past period, there is eloquent testimony in the form of programmes in the field of peaceful exploration and uses of outer space. Thus the Sub-Committee suggests that the attention of States should be drawn to such programmes as the International Year of the Quiet Sun and others.

Soviet scientists are actually participating in the programme of the world magnetic survey and the International Year of the Quiet Sun. In particular in the Soviet Union there is a systematic launching of the cosmos series whose observations are one of the contributions of the Soviet Union to the implementation of these programmes. It can be expected that before the end of the International Year of the Quiet Sun a further number of launchings in this series will be carried out and also of other types of satellites similar to the well known pair of satellites of the electron type and others. Information useful to the programme of the International Year of the Quiet Sun is obtained by the launchings of our American colleagues and by scientists of other countries. The success of the existing international programmes and their significance for the broadening of co-operation in outer space research leads one to think that it would be necessary to recommend to the corresponding scientific organizations and to the Member States to encourage the development and implementation of new international programmes which continue large scale research that is being conducted during the International Year of the Quiet Sun.

I am happy to report to the Committee that in bilateral talks between our country and the United States we have come to an agreed decision to present to the Committee the text of an agreed document on bilateral co-operation in explorations of outer space. In the course of its work the Sub-Committee also considered the reports of the World Meteorological Organization and the International Telecommunication Union and recommends that they be noted.

In the field of meteorology the Sub-Committee draws attention to the principal tasks to which the efforts of the WMO are being directed, that is, the establishment of a world meteorological service providing for the utilization of meteorological satellites, creation of a system of centres for the processing of meteorological information and the expansion of the earth's networks; and secondly, the significant development of research for the purpose of improving forecasts and the broadening of meteorological science.

The Soviet Union is making its contribution in the solution of these problems. A positive example in the field of communications by means of satellites is the extraordinary administrative conference for the determination of bands of

frequency for outer space communications which was held by the ITU in October and November of 1963. Our country has made considerable efforts in order to ensure that it might be possible to come to agreement on the question of the distribution of frequencies for space communications. The decisions of this extraordinary conference and the introduction of corresponding changes in radio regulations, which set up technical standards and the rules for utilizing space communications, have created more favourable conditions for the future development of the work in this area and have pointed to the way in which further co-operation among States is possible. Unfortunately, however, in most recent times the question of the setting up of co-operation among States in such an important area as the practical use of outer space and of space communications is not developing in the way in which we should like to see it develop. We have in mind the forcing by the United States of measures for the creation of an organizational legal structure for a global system of space communications. The measures that were taken and the methods that were utilized in this connexion, and the principles on which that system is based have been criticized by representatives of various countries at the present session of the Committee. This is no accident inasmuch as our Committee is called upon to orient research and the peaceful uses of outer space in such a direction that this will be done in full agreement with the decisions of the United Nations and other international organizations which govern the activities of States in outer space, in order that these activities may be pursued in the interests of mankind as a whole. Justified alarm was expressed in the statements to the effect that the United States is utilizing its experiments with communications satellites and has entered into an agreement with a number of Western countries for setting up a system of communications under conditions which ensure the transfer of this system into the hands of United States private capital. A reading of these agreements will show that their most important provisions are at variance with General Assembly resolutions 1721 (XVI) and 1802 (XVII), the important requirements of the declaration on the activities of Governments in outer space and also the decisions of the ITU governing activities of Governments connected with the use of satellites for communications purposes. It is no accident also that these

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

measures were carried out behind the back of the United Nations and that they short-circuited the ITU. It stands to reason that the establishment of a private consortium controlled by the American corporation Comsat for the purpose of utilizing satellites for communications purposes does not exclude but, on the contrary, stresses further activity by the United Nations, the ITU and all States interested in the rational and progressive development of space-communication means oriented towards all the problems concerned for the establishment of genuine international and universal means of communication through satellites, which answers the various economic and cultural requirements of all countries.

In conclusion, we wish to express great satisfaction at the fact that from year to year the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of our Committee is finding ever better ways of mutual understanding and methods of taking into account the interests of the Member States of the United Nations in problems connected with the peaceful uses of outer space.

Mr. WALDHEIM (Austria): In the course of the general debate the Austrian delegation made a suggestion to study, in consultation as appropriate with other specialized agencies such as ICAO, the need for and the possibilities of establishing a civil world-wide navigation satellite system for traffic control both at sea and in the air. The Austrian delegation would like now to read out the text of a draft recommendation to this effect:

"The Committee,

"Noting that there now exists the possibility of development of new communication techniques for radio, navigation and traffic control, both at sea and in the air,

"Invites the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee in co-operation with the Secretary-General and making full use of the functions and resources of the Secretariat and consulting as may be useful with the specialized agencies, in particular ICAO, to study and to submit a report on the requirement for and possibility of establishing a civil world-wide navigation satellite system on a non-discriminatory basis."

In this connexion I should like to draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that at the very beginning when the United Nations started to deal with matters of the peaceful uses of outer space -- namely, in the first outer space report of the former Ad Hoc Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, document A/4141 of July 1959 -- the following reference is made with regard to a navigation satellite system:

"The navigation satellite may provide the basis for an all-weather long-range navigation system for surface vehicles and aircraft. With the use of suitable ranges of frequencies for transmission, it would be possible to establish positions with great precision irrespective of the prevailing weather. At the present time, there is no such world-wide all-weather system of navigation." (A/4141, page 37)

In the meantime, the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference of ITU in 1963 has allocated special frequency bands for navigation satellite purposes as shown in the ITU progress report 1964, on page 6.

In January 1964 President Johnson in his report to Congress referred to the importance of a navigational satellite programme to meet non-military requirements and stated that NASA is responsible for the development of such civil navigational

(Mr. Waldheim, Austria)

equipment. In subsequent press interviews prominent NASA officials have stated: "an artificial earth satellite can make a valuable contribution to the solution of the problem of civil world-wide navigation and traffic control both at sea and in the air. Results of studies now being completed confirm this. Our objectives include instantaneous position location with extremely inexpensive equipment".

Other countries, such as, for instance, Japan, are, according to reliable sources, planning to develop a space satellite type for providing navigation aid. The revised European "Eurosace programme" advocates likewise the development of navigation satellites.

In view of these existing efforts the Austrian delegation would like to recall that General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI) requested our Committee to assist in the study of measures for the promotion of international co-operation in outer space activities and that General Assembly resolution 1963 (XVIII) encouraged Member States to co-operate in the field of outer space so that all Member States could benefit from the peaceful use of outer space.

Therefore the Austrian delegation believes that our Committee should encourage and recommend for the time being a preliminary study of the requirement for and possibility of establishing a civil world-wide navigation satellite system on a non-discriminating basis. This preliminary study should, in the opinion of the Austrian delegation, best be carried out by the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee in co-operation with the Secretary-General, making full use of the functions and resources of the Secretariat and consulting, as may be useful, with the specialized agencies, in particular ICAO, to study and to submit a report on the requirement for and possibility of establishing a civil world-wide navigation satellite system on a non-discriminatory basis. Finally, we would repeat that there are encouraging indications that the use of navigation satellites might prove to be of great importance for the navigation and traffic control of sea-going vessels and aircraft by providing continuous position determination and communication capabilities regardless of weather conditions.

With respect to recommendation G of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, in which it is proposed:

(Mr. Waldheim, Austria)

"to consider, after consultation with competent international organizations, the usefulness of organizing in 1967 under United Nations auspices an international conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space",

my delegation would also like to make a few comments.

In the view of the Austrian delegation it seems appropriate to examine, first of all, the objectives of such an international gathering. Once the objectives of such a conference have been clearly defined it will be easier to arrive at a decision concerning the character and organization of such a gathering.

With regard to the objectives of such a meeting, the Austrian delegation believes that its primary purpose should be to provide maximum benefit to its participants and to further the objectives of the United Nations. The gathering should not duplicate existing international conferences and international bodies concerned with outer space and should, therefore, not require substantial financial resources.

Contrary to what was the situation before the first Geneva Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy which was held in 1955, there seems to be general agreement that the scientific topics of outer space research are well covered through the existing channels. Therefore it does not appear necessary for the United Nations to review in detail, on such an occasion, the scientific progress achieved so far and to republish at great cost scientific papers which are in fact already available.

Furthermore, in the view of my delegation, such a gathering should not necessarily concern itself with a review of national activities in outer space or with detailed scientific explanations of specific programmes but should rather confine itself to the impact of the scientific progress so far achieved and in particular deal with the practical applications of outer space research. In this way such a gathering could widen the scope of exchange of information on peaceful uses of outer space and thus further the objectives of the United Nations in this field.

Thus the gathering not only would deal with issues of space sciences, covered widely by exchanges in existing scientific forums, but would be mainly concerned

(Mr. Waldheim, Austria)

with the practical applications of outer space research, including engineering and technology and other subjects of interest to Governments which have not yet begun their own space programmes.

With regard to the topics which could be discussed, my delegation would, for instance, suggest the following:

(1) An appraisal of the goals and potentials of scientific research in space and their relation to the needs of mankind;

(Mr. Waldheim, Austria)

(2) The application of space research in the field of communications, meteorology, navigation, etc;

(3) The economic and sociological implications of expanding space exploration;

(4) The impact of space exploration on education and training;

(5) Opportunities and obstacles for participation in space exploration; and

(6) The future role of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in the field of outer space.

In the view of the Austrian delegation there would be no need for an exhibition, since the subjects are not better understood by the display of satellites and boosters. Visual material could be confined to visual aids in conjunction with papers presented.

The report of such a meeting should be presented in a way that it is also of interest to the general public. Thus, it could further another recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which is to ensure popular understanding of the purposes and potentials of outer space activities.

There would be, of course, some expenditure involved for the preparatory work for such an international gathering. There is no doubt about this. We believe, however, that some of this preparatory work could be undertaken by the Outer Space Affairs Group within the existing level of appropriations. Other functions might be assigned to consultants and could, it is assumed, be financed from the available appropriations for expert services. It is, however, difficult to anticipate at this stage an exact breakdown of cost. However, once the principal outlines of such a gathering are agreed upon and before definitive decisions are made, it should be possible to arrive at a fairly detailed estimate of specific costs.

In conclusion, the Austrian delegation would like to support what has been said by the representative of Italy and other members of this Committee that it would be helpful to have a small working group with the mandate to investigate first of all the objectives of such an international gathering. The working group should, in our opinion, report its findings to the Outer Space Committee at its next session and thus facilitate a decision on the organization and character of such a meeting.

Mr. FRANZI (Italy): The Italian delegation has already stated in the general debate that it believes that the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee is an excellent report and that the recommendations should be adopted unanimously by this Committee for submission, whenever pertinent, to the General Assembly.

In particular, we are very pleased to support the endorsement of the Thumba International Equatorial Sounding Rocket Launching Facility for United Nations sponsorship and to compliment the Government of India for the brilliant success of the initiative. This example of international co-operation in the practical as well as in the theoretical aspects of the peaceful exploration of outer space is, in our opinion, one of the most important achievements of the activity of our Committee, within which the idea of the Thumba range originated.

At the time of the discussions in the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee as to the advisability of establishing international sounding rocket ranges under United Nations sponsorship, the Italian representative pointed out that such a step, if adopted, opened exciting new possibilities in the field of a true global co-operation for the peaceful exploration of outer space because it cleared the way for a much more extended coverage of space research activities through several international ranges, rationally located on the surface of our planet, and also because in the due course of their development these ranges might offer to the great space Powers the possibility of conducting true joint space ventures of major significance.

The first part of our forecast is already coming about, with the appearance of several new ranges with United Nations sponsorship potential. I refer to the "San Marco" mobile range, which is a case in itself; the Camical range announced by the Republic of Argentina; and the Brazial Port Natal Range, the latest and most welcome addition to the list.

I wish to take this opportunity to compliment the representative of Brazil for the excellent initiative of his Government which, together with the other brilliant initiative of the Republic of Argentina for the establishment of a Centre of Studies on Communication Satellites, brings the great group of the Latin American countries to the forefront of the peaceful exploration of space.

My delegation acknowledges with gratitude the consensus of opinion given by many representatives to its proposal for the establishment of a working group in the matter of the International Space Conference, and feels it desirable to clarify its thinking on this subject.

It has been stated with most convincing eloquence by the representatives of Bulgaria, Lebanon and others, that our primary aim should be to give the developing countries a complete picture of the astonishing achievements and possibilities resulting from ten years of peaceful exploration, while presenting to the world a fitting celebration for the first decade of the Space Age.

It has also been stated that this goal should be attained without duplications and overlapping and, may I add, without excessive cost to the United Nations Organization and to all parties concerned.

To meet these requirements, my delegation has proposed the establishment of a small working group and suggests that, in co-operation with the Secretary-General and making full use of the functions and resources of the Secretariat, this group:

(a) should study ways and means to present to the developing countries of the world, in the most effective fashion, a complete picture of the scientific, technological and practical achievements brought about during the first ten years of the Space Age and of the benefits that could be derived for all mankind;

(b) among the various ideas advanced on this subject, the working group should consider the proposal of an international conference, the proposal of a commemorative meeting of this Committee, and any other proposal which might be advanced;

(c) should discuss, with the specialized agencies, COSPAR and other competent bodies concerned, the aspects related to duplication and overlapping with other scientific or technical space conferences scheduled for the same period. This discussion should be of a preliminary nature and its fundamental aim would be to secure data and information which might be useful to the Committee in its final decision.

(Mr. Franzi, Italy)

The working group should present a report on its findings, accompanied by an assessment of the related cost to the United Nations prepared by the Secretariat, to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee in order to have the benefit of its opinion and comments. The recommendation of the Sub-Committee would subsequently be submitted to our Committee for consideration and final approval.

My delegation has no particular suggestions on the composition of the working group, except that it should be small. The choice of members should be left to Ambassador Matsch, on his wisdom and experience we fully rely.

Before closing these brief comments on the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, I wish to draw the Committee's attention to a matter which is of a certain interest.

The Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development stated in the excellent report (E/3866) on its first session that it would welcome the views of other organs of the United Nations family on the solution of problems which would offer unusually great benefits through application in developing countries. It is the opinion of the Italian delegation that the solutions provided by space research to the problems of telecommunications and meteorology fit exactly into the framework of the Advisory Committee's request, inasmuch as, in the Advisory Committee's second session, which is now being held in this building, the questions of weather forecasting and weather modification have already been discussed and referred to a working group for further study. Accordingly, our Committee's views on those subjects should, in our opinion, be made known to the Advisory Committee, through appropriate channels.

The Italian delegation has thus prepared a short paragraph to that effect which could be added to our report and which it would be glad to circulate if that is the wish of the Committee. We think that the proper moment to take a decision on this matter might be when the Committee discusses the Sub-Committee's report paragraph by paragraph, as suggested by the representative of the United States.

The CHAIRMAN: Does any other representative wish to make a statement on the reports of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, the ITU, the WMO and the Thumba scientific group? Anyone wishing to make a statement may do so as long as these items are under discussion.

Miss GUTTERIDGE (United Kingdom): I should like to refer very briefly to the remarks made this morning by the representative of the Soviet Union on the European Launcher Development Organization (ELDO).

As my delegation pointed out in its statement in the general debate, that organization is concerned only with peaceful uses of launchers and associated equipment. It plays a leading and useful part in promoting international co-operation in the application of the results of space research and technology.

My delegation therefore considers that the documents referring to the activities and resources of the United Nations, of the specialized agencies and of other competent bodies relating to the peaceful uses of outer space would be incomplete without a reference to ELDO, as well as to the other two regional organizations: the European Space Research Organization and the Inter-American Committee for Space Research.

My delegation would like to reserve the right to return to this matter at a later stage, if that appears to be appropriate.

The CHAIRMAN: Does any other representative wish to make a statement on the items before the Committee? If not, in order not to lose time and if the Committee agrees, we could now follow the procedure suggested by the Rapporteur and take up point by point the recommendations contained in the Sub-Committee's report (A/AC.105/20 and Add.1). The Rapporteur has suggested that we start with paragraph 13. Members have doubtless studied this report, and there is therefore no need to read out the texts.

If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee adopts paragraph 13 (A/AC.105/20, page 4).

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to paragraph 14 (A/AC.105/20, page 5). I would ask the Committee whether that paragraph is absolutely necessary, since our report to the General Assembly will refer explicitly to document A/AC.105/20, the complete report of the Sub-Committee.

Does the Rapporteur think that it is necessary to include paragraph 14 in the Committee's report?

Mr. de CARVALHO SILOS (Brazil), Rapporteur: In answer to the Chairman's question, I would say that it is for the Committee to decide whether or not paragraph 14 should be retained.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): My delegation believes it would be desirable to retain paragraph 14 in the report. We see no reason to remove it.

The CHAIRMAN: If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Committee agrees to retain paragraph 14 in the report.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to paragraph 15 (A/AC.105/20, page 5). If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to adopt that paragraph.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: The Rapporteur has already informed the Committee that he intends to make the necessary textual changes in the recommendations. In the present text of the report the words "The Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee" are used; that will be changed to "The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space". This relates to paragraph 16 (A/AC.105/20, page 5 and ff).

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): With regard to paragraph 16 B (A/AC.105/20, pages 5 and 6), we have certain further proposals to make for the exchange of information on national and international co-operative space activities, and would welcome discussion of our points.

At the present stage of space activity, progress in the development of peaceful research and applications, as well as progress in co-operation among nations, must rest primarily upon national space programmes and the opportunities which they present to all. Information of national space programmes is the raw material with which real co-operation must start.

Both government officials and scientists in those countries relatively new to space activity will logically begin consideration of their proper roles in this field by reviewing the work in progress in those countries already active. From such reviews they will determine in their own interest what feasible, complementary or even deliberately duplicating work they may wish to engage in and what co-operation is possible and desirable, in what activities they will require further education and training, and so forth.

To conduct such reviews of existing national programmes, Governments and scientists alike require detailed information of the scientific and practical activity involved in those national programmes, the specific experiments conducted or to be conducted, the nature of facilities available for co-operative activities, and so forth. If that information is to be valuable for scientific and technical purposes, it should be detailed and specific -- not so generalized that each experiment sounds like every other experiment.

Moreover, the officials and scientists of the newly interested countries should have such information from each and all of the practicing Member States so that their review and consideration may be complete. They should be able easily to determine what work is going on where, in all the practising Member States; for, a decision to pursue a given line of effort should be taken after a review of all the pertinent facts.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to paragraph 14 (A/AC.105/20, page 5). I would ask the Committee whether that paragraph is absolutely necessary, since our report to the General Assembly will refer explicitly to document A/AC.105/20, the complete report of the Sub-Committee.

Does the Rapporteur think that it is necessary to include paragraph 14 in the Committee's report?

Mr. de CARVALHO SILOS (Brazil), Rapporteur: In answer to the Chairman's question, I would say that it is for the Committee to decide whether or not paragraph 14 should be retained.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): My delegation believes it would be desirable to retain paragraph 14 in the report. We see no reason to remove it.

The CHAIRMAN: If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Committee agrees to retain paragraph 14 in the report.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to paragraph 15 (A/AC.105/20, page 5). If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to adopt that paragraph.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: The Rapporteur has already informed the Committee that he intends to make the necessary textual changes in the recommendations. In the present text of the report the words "The Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee" are used; that will be changed to "The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space". This relates to paragraph 16 (A/AC.105/20, page 5 and ff).

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): With regard to paragraph 16 B (A/AC.105/20, pages 5 and 6), we have certain further proposals to make for the exchange of information on national and international co-operative space activities, and would welcome discussion of our points.

At the present stage of space activity, progress in the development of peaceful research and applications, as well as progress in co-operation among nations, must rest primarily upon national space programmes and the opportunities which they present to all. Information of national space programmes is the raw material with which real co-operation must start.

Both government officials and scientists in those countries relatively new to space activity will logically begin consideration of their proper roles in this field by reviewing the work in progress in those countries already active. From such reviews they will determine in their own interest what feasible, complementary or even deliberately duplicating work they may wish to engage in and what co-operation is possible and desirable, in what activities they will require further education and training, and so forth.

To conduct such reviews of existing national programmes, Governments and scientists alike require detailed information of the scientific and practical activity involved in those national programmes, the specific experiments conducted or to be conducted, the nature of facilities available for co-operative activities, and so forth. If that information is to be valuable for scientific and technical purposes, it should be detailed and specific -- not so generalized that each experiment sounds like every other experiment.

Moreover, the officials and scientists of the newly interested countries should have such information from each and all of the practicing Member States so that their review and consideration may be complete. They should be able easily to determine what work is going on where, in all the practising Member States; for, a decision to pursue a given line of effort should be taken after a review of all the pertinent facts.

The CHAIRMAN: The Chair considers that in line with the procedure we have followed, if there is no agreement the only thing that remains for us is to have the suggestion just made by the United States delegation included in extenso in the verbatim record. It is up to every member who submits information to the Secretariat to follow these detailed guidelines or to send in more general information. If it is agreeable, therefore, to the Committee, the complete text of the proposed amendment will be included in the verbatim record and any country which intends to send information can make use of this procedure.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): So that I may understand the position of the Soviet representative, may I ask if he objects to the inclusion of this information of co-operative activities in the reports of Member States.

Mr. BLAGONRAVOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I would wish to stress anew the fact that at the meetings of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, in which scientists from many countries participated, we had discussed this question in very great detail. I do not at all object to the fact that the information that is to be presented should be in keeping with the interests of all the countries concerned. I should like to stress that we had decided that that information should be presented on a voluntary basis. I think that we would categorically object to the imposition of any kind of information that would be at variance with the principle stated. This is more or less what our previous discussion amounted to. I wish to repeat that the Sub-Committee had discussed this matter in very great detail and found such a wording for its recommendations which, from my point of view at least, should be satisfactory to all. That is why I propose anew that we leave the existing recommendations as they stand now, without any changes.

The CHAIRMAN: If I understood the representative of the USSR correctly, he has no objection to having the information as such, the guidelines, included in the text of the report, but he does not want them included in the recommendations of the Committee. The Rapporteur will proceed accordingly. The guideline suggested by the United States delegation will be included in the report, and it will be specifically mentioned that this is on a voluntary basis -- a guideline for any country sending in information -- but it will not be included in the text of the recommendation itself.

Since I hear no objection, I take it that that is agreeable to the Committee.

We shall now pass on to the next paragraph, namely, part C of point 16. There was no comment during the general debate, and therefore I assume that not only part C, but also parts D, E and F, are acceptable to the Committee.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): My delegation would have some comment on recommendation D. We support both parts of recommendation D. We think it most desirable to endorse sub-paragraph (b), which requests the Secretary-General to inquire of COSPAR and report on the status of the technical manuals that organization is preparing. We also favour sub-paragraph (a), which suggests that the Secretary-General consider, in the light of existing material, the usefulness and possibilities of publishing new material to ensure popular understanding of the purposes and potentialities of space activities, possibly in a series of pamphlets or a handbook. In view of the increasing world-wide interest in outer space, we hope that this project will be fully considered in the near future. However, since the most important factors here are not only scientific or technical, we believe that the Secretary-General's report should be considered, at least initially, by the full Committee rather than the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee. To that end, we propose that the final phrase of sub-paragraph (a) should be revised to read: "and report his conclusions and recommendations to the Committee".

The CHAIRMAN: The proposal by the United States delegation is that the last word of sub-paragraph (a) be changed from "Sub-Committee" to "Committee". The word "Sub-Committee", however, would remain at the end of sub-paragraph (b).

(The Chairman)

Since I hear no objection, I take it that that is agreed by the Committee.

We now come to part E of point 16. There were no remarks during the debate and the Chair therefore assumes that the Committee agrees to this paragraph.

Miss AGUIRRE (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): If we may return to part D, I should like to make an observation concerning the Spanish translation. In the fourth line, where it speaks of disseminating information, the wrong word was used in Spanish. This does not affect the English text. Moreover, in sub-paragraph (b), in the second line, where the English text reads "to inquire", the word should be changed in Spanish.

The CHAIRMAN: That comment will be taken into account by the Secretariat when the text is produced in Spanish.

We now turn again to part E. Since I hear no objection, I take it that that part is accepted by the Committee.

As to part F, there were no remarks made during the debate. May the Chair therefore assume that the Committee accepts this recommendation?

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): We do not object to part F as written, but we do have a comment with respect to it. We have already indicated our support of part F, which recommends that the Committee "compile useful information on space conferences and symposia open to the scientists of Member States and inform Member States periodically of such opportunities". In proposing this recommendation at the last meeting of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, we were motivated by the belief that such a list would serve as a useful device for publicizing conferences and symposia -- national, regional or world-wide -- which might be of interest or value to scientists of any Member State and in which any Member State, not necessarily all Member States, is scheduled to participate. Such conferences and symposia, we believe, will not only promote an exchange of views among specialists but will also assure the general dissemination of information concerning the opportunities that exist for sharing in space research and its applications.

The CHAIRMAN: That comment will be included in the verbatim record. I understand that the United States delegation does not propose any amendment to the present text.

We now come to part G, dealing with the question of a conference or a special session of the Outer Space Committee in co-operation with the specialized agencies. During the debate, there were several proposals. The first one, by the delegation of Italy -- which was supported by many other Members -- was to have a working group investigate the question of convening either a conference or an enlarged special session of the Outer Space Committee. Therefore, the question we are now discussing is not whether to have or not to have a conference; the question we are discussing is whether to have a special international conference convened or to prepare a special session of the Outer Space Committee in co-operation with the specialized agencies.

It was also mentioned in the debate that in order to make such a decision -- by which forum this gathering should be convened -- it might be important first to have the objectives of such a gathering defined. In that connexion, there were two suggestions. One was to have a small working group prepare the ground, and the other was to have the Scientific Sub-Committee make that study.

(The Chairman)

If I may offer a kind of compromise suggestion, it would be that if we would appoint a small working group to prepare this study, it could be available to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee when it meets at its next session. Therefore, these two suggestions are more or less complementary and not controversial.

Would any member care to make a statement again on this question of preparing an international gathering?

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): We have listened with interest to the variety of views expressed by representatives on the subject of an international conference and we have noted that the objectives which appear implicit or explicit in those comments have been commendable in every respect. We note also that the character of the suggestions has varied considerably. We feel it important therefore to comment upon the proposal for an international conference in quite realistic and factual terms.

What are the objectives of such a conference? They must be to exchange information on the space activities of the participants and to facilitate co-operation among them. We strongly share these objectives, but we feel it necessary to examine the degree to which a conference might serve them.

First, what information on space activities is already available? The current report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee here before us includes a number of pertinent recommendations. Recommendation C provides that Member States submit "literature on the goals, tools, results and application of space research and technology" to the library of the Outer Space Affairs Group, and that States be informed of these acquisitions, and that supplementary bibliographic listings be provided to them. My country has already provided such material and will continue to do so.

Recommendation D looks to material to ensure popular understanding of space activities and pursues the highly successful arrangement with COSPAR, according to which a number of technical manuals have already been made available, with more to come. We may hope that these are already in the library of the Outer Space Affairs Group.

(Mr. Frutkin, United States)

Recommendation E calls attention to the World Data Centres in the United States, the USSR and the United Kingdom, which serve as repositories for all the information obtained from space research and which regularly publish lists of this data, plus extensive bibliographies, available to all.

Recommendation F provides for the compilation and reporting to Member States of information on space conferences and symposia.

Thus there is a wealth of documentary information and data already available or soon to be expected for those who have substantive interest.

Now, besides this documentary material, information on space activities is also to be obtained through a wealth of space conferences and symposia already regularly held by various organs of the scientific and engineering communities. I have here a list of these scheduled for the current year, plus additional meetings scheduled for succeeding years. I must emphasize that this list is only partial, that many more meetings can be listed and that it must be assumed that the list for 1964 will be duplicated and even extended in succeeding years. For example, COSPAR, which has met annually since 1959 must be assumed to meet again annually in years to follow.

I think it is important to take time to identify some of these conferences and their programmes. In 1964 for example, in May, COSPAR convened in Florence. In June the Hermann Oberth Society met in Darmstadt, open to international participation. In August, the Inter-American Symposium on Space Research was held in Buenos Aires. Also in August, a regional symposium of the International Year of the Quiet Sun was held in Buenos Aires, with a programme heavily devoted to space questions. Also in August, the International Astronomical Union met in Hamburg, Germany, again with an agenda heavily devoted to space items. In September, the International Astronautical Congress met in Warsaw. Also in September, the International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine met in Dublin. Again in September, the International Congress on Instrumentation in Aerospace Simulation Facilities met in Paris. In November, at the current time, a Workshop on Advanced Gyroscopes for Space Application has been convened in Paris. And later this month there will be convened in Texas an International Symposium on

(Mr. Frutkin, United States)

Fourth, the attendance at such conferences is not limited to a few countries active in space research and exploration. On the contrary, the last COSPAR meeting in Florence was attended by representatives of almost thirty-five countries, and the last meeting of IAF in Warsaw had nationals from as many countries. I might mention some of the countries which attended the COSPAR meeting: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, Indonesia and Nigeria. A similar list might be made in the case of the IAF meeting in Warsaw.

A most heartening example of participation by countries new to space was the joint meeting last August in Buenos Aires of regional groups concerned with the International Year of the Quiet Sun and the Latin American Space Commission. Representatives of almost all the North and South American communities attended.

These examples illustrate not only the active participation of the smaller countries in information exchange, but also illustrate the initiative and interest which are necessary for a meaningful participation.

I believe that these many facts are sufficient to demonstrate the total duplicative character of any United Nations space conference with technical content. Should a conference of a non-technical nature be envisaged, the case is even more persuasive against it. I would remind you of the extensive recommendations now before us on documentation of a popular and non-technical nature, but, most important, I point to the General Assembly, to this Committee and to its legal and technical Sub-Committees. Surely it is their function to consider and exchange views on space matters of a general nature. It is for this last reason that we have offered the suggestion of a special meeting of this Committee as an alternative to a conference.

Finally, let us consider the second objective before us, to facilitate co-operation. I submit that large conferences with generalized agendas relating to information exchanges will not produce co-operation. They will not engage the scientists of any country in joint satellite or sounding rocket projects with the scientists of any other country. They will not organize the scientists of the world in ground-based observations and experiments contributing to space work.

(Mr. Frutkin, United States)

They will not advance the training of technicians in the operational use of meteorological or communications satellites. They will not engage the technicians of many countries in the operational tracking and data acquisition activities of a launching nation. They will not establish specific space education programmes.

I must now turn to another consideration which applies here without regard to the merits of the proposal for a conference; this is the question of cost. The cost of the first United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy was several million dollars, and this represents only the cost to the United Nations, not the cost met directly by the participants. With very great effort and economy, the cost of the most recent conference was reduced to \$1 million.

I submit that no such new costs can be considered in the present state of United Nations financial affairs, and most certainly not in the case of a proposal which appears to fill no real need and to duplicate numerous other sources for information.

Let me summarize. We strongly support the objectives sought here and we believe that we must address ourselves constantly to them, seeking the substance of co-operation, and not the superficial appearance of co-operation.

Of the two objectives sought by the proposal for a conference, information and co-operation, information is already abundantly provided for through the reports, documentation, bibliographies and libraries recommended by the Committee, through the information available in the World Data Centres, and through the numerous conferences already scheduled each year. Let us make these reports and let us use them. Let us avail ourselves of this documentation. Let us attend the conferences already scheduled.

We have shown that a United Nations conference would be totally duplicative, would fill no such need as existed in the case of atomic energy, would produce no new information, would parallel in a large measure information exchanges already conducted or supported by the United Nations, would make no information available to the smaller countries not already available to them, would involve us in needless and significant costs and, most important of all, would be totally unsuited to the furtherance of real co-operation.

(Mr. Frutkin, United States)

As we have said before, and are prepared to say again, it is time this Committee turned away from the generalizations associated with the appearance of co-operation and time that it addressed itself to the hard facts which constitute the raw material of co-operation.

Mr. BLAGONRAVOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The representative of the United States has endeavoured here to dazzle our imagination with that wealthy list of conferences, symposia and meetings, and also with the fact that the poor scientists who are connected with the exploration of outer space apparently have nothing better to do than to travel from one conference to another and have no time left at all for any scientific research in the peaceful exploration of outer space. However, I think that after all the situation is not quite that.

It seems to me that the majority of the representatives here in principle have considerable sympathy with the idea of the organization of such an international conference under the sponsorship of the United Nations. At least in principle, everyone supported this idea. It seems to me that the convening of such a conference, on the contrary, would help many scientific organizations to revise the plans of their activities for 1967 so as far as possible to exclude this notorious duplication of effort. With appropriate organization of such a conference, the activities of such scientific organizations doubtlessly would be facilitated, and they would be enabled in a very concentrated form not only to obtain information on the research being carried out in outer space, but also to lay down the most basic orientations for further development in this field.

As I have already pointed out, in the over-all estimate of costs that are to be borne by the representatives of these organizations, it seemed to me that there will be certain savings made. For instance, the United Nations, after all, is called upon -- and this is why our Committee was set up -- to assist the development of international co-operation, and that is why a certain part of the expenses can quite legitimately be borne in this connexion.

Therefore, my proposal in regard to paragraph G can be formulated as follows: That our Committee approves in principle the proposal regarding the convening in 1967 of an international conference, under the sponsorship of the United Nations,

(Mr. Blagonravov, USSR)

on the peaceful uses of outer space; and that it entrusts to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee in 1965, with the utilization of the means and resources of the Secretariat and in consultation with the competent organizations concerned with outer space, the task of determining the character and content of such a conference and the questions connected with the invitations to the organizations concerned to participate in such a conference. This is the formulation that I propose should be introduced instead of paragraph G. I believe that the United Nations Secretariat, as we have had the opportunity of seeing in the past will be of great assistance to the Sub-Committee in this undertaking, and I believe that the proposal I have submitted is sufficiently clear.

The CHAIRMAN: As no other member of the Committee wishes to speak, I should therefore like to sum up.

The Committee is faced with the following situation: A large number of members have in principle approved the idea of an international conference in 1967. On the other hand, there were two or three members who did not go along with the idea of an international conference but who would prefer a special commemorative session of this Committee, including the co-operation of the appropriate specialized agencies. Therefore, common ground exists in so far as it appears to the Chair that in the year 1967 some international gathering for the peaceful uses of outer space should be envisaged. I am now asking whether the Committee is prepared to accept the idea of an international gathering in 1967 and to leave to the Scientific Sub-Committee or a working group -- this we have to decide a little later -- the preparation of the objective on the character of this gathering. The Scientific Sub-Committee may perhaps be in a better position to recommend to our Committee in 1965 which of the two alternatives would be more appropriate. What I am now putting to the Committee is whether the Committee is prepared to agree that in 1967 in principle an international gathering on the peaceful uses of outer space should take place. This is the first question I am submitting now. In view of the fact that the international gathering could be called an international conference or a special session of the Committee, this question would not be involved; it would in principle be an international gathering in 1967.

Mr. DOBELL (Canada): Mr. Chairman, I listened carefully to your suggestion. It seems to me that it has considerable merit. However, the particular word that you have used, the word "gathering" seems to my delegation to have a somewhat ambiguous sense. It would seem to me that perhaps a word like "manifestation" might be a little more comprehensive, might cover more the suggestions that have been made in the Committee to date. Perhaps, if there seems to be a general consensus on this point, our Rapporteur might be entrusted with informal discussions in an effort to reach some language on this particular recommendation that would gather the general support of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: If the Committee agrees, we can leave it to our Rapporteur to choose the appropriate word, whether it will be an international manifestation or an international meeting, which leaves open the question whether it is a special conference or special session. I trust that the Rapporteur will be kind enough to contact the delegations that are mainly involved in this question and include the appropriate language in his report. If this is agreeable to the Committee, we shall proceed in this way.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: As to the body to be entrusted with the preparation of the 1967 meeting, there has been a suggestion by the representative of Italy to have a small working group; this suggestion was supported by many other delegations. On the other hand, it has been proposed that the Scientific Sub-Committee should do this work.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): It seems to me that the formulation which has been attempted by the Chair is somewhat premature. My delegation has made a lengthy statement which contains a considerable amount of facts, and I think that it would be useful if the representatives took some time to consider the statement that we have made and to contribute to the debate on this subject. I would suggest that we allow time for such a process.

The CHAIRMAN: If the Committee agrees, we would leave this part G and have it resumed as soon as the Rapporteur has been able to contact the delegations who are primarily concerned in this question.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We can now pass on to the next part on page 8, "B. Encouragement of International Programmes". The first paragraph in that part is paragraph 17. I think that if this paragraph is to be retained, it has to be changed in the following way: the word "recommendations" should be changed to "report" because this document will be a report of our Committee to the General Assembly. The sentence would read then:

"The importance of the areas of space communications and space meteorology has been recognized in past reports of the Sub-Committee and its parent body."

(The Chairman)

Is there any objection to this paragraph 17? If there is none, we can pass on to paragraph 18.

Mr. COOK (Australia): The Australian delegation would have no objection to your proposal on paragraph 17, but we would hope that it would not be necessary for the Committee to approve every single word and change of wording in these preliminary narrative paragraphs. We would be perfectly prepared to leave that to the Rapporteur, to amend these paragraphs in the ways necessary, in his view, to make them suitable for a Committee report, and it would save us time.

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee has taken note of the remarks made by the representative of Australia, and all the textual changes which are required to transform the Sub-Committee's text to the text of the Committee to the Assembly will be undertaken by the Rapporteur.

Perhaps we can take paragraphs 18, 19 and 20 together because there were no remarks on these three paragraphs in the debate. If there is no objection, the Chair would consider these three paragraphs approved.

It was so decided.

Mr. de CARVALHO SILOS (Brazil), Rapporteur: Speaking as Rapporteur, I would like to propose an amendment to be included as a new paragraph in section B on page 8 of the Sub-Committee's report. This new paragraph should be included after present paragraph 18 and would be drafted as follows:

"The representative of Argentina informed the Committee that his Government plans to establish a regional centre under international auspices for research and training in satellite communication systems. The Government of Argentina is also envisaging the possibility of submitting to the United Nations Special Fund at the appropriate time a request for assistance in this project."

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee has heard the proposed addition after paragraph 18 which corresponds to the statement made a few days ago by the representative of Argentina. I believe there will be no objection to that addition.

It was so decided.

Paragraphs 19, 20, 21 and 22 were adopted.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to paragraph 23. With regard to part B, "Applications", on page 10, I would recall that during the debate the Austrian representative suggested that, in view of the fact that the revised report of the World Meteorological Organization was not available at the time when the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee met in Geneva, there should be included after sub-paragraph (a) a paragraph reading as follows:

"Commend the WMO for the further development of the world weather watch concept and its phased programme of action."
If there is no objection, such a paragraph will be included and the present (b) will then become (c) and so on.

It was so decided.

Mr. FIORIO (Italy): In line with what my delegation suggested earlier this morning, we should like to have some reference in this chapter to a channel of liaison or communication with the Advisory Committee of the Economic and Social Council. We have prepared a small addition, which could be inserted in the recommendations as (f) or could be inserted in paragraph 21. It reads as follows:

"The Committee invites the Secretary-General to call the attention of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technological Development to the recommendations and views expressed by this Committee on the subject of space meteorology and space telecommunications."

This is in order to keep us reciprocally informed on the decisions and views expressed in both Committees and to meet a request by that Committee inviting the views of all United Nations organs on subjects of mutual interest. The place where that paragraph could be inserted is not of very much concern to us; it could be inserted either in the recommendations or in paragraph 21.

The CHAIRMAN: I am informed by the Secretariat that the most suitable place for that addition would be at the end of the recommendations. It would become sub-paragraph (g), since we have a new sub-paragraph (b), in paragraph 23. If there is no objection, it will be so included in the report.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: This morning the representative of Austria submitted to the Committee a draft recommendation, which he read out and which will be found in extenso in the verbatim record, to the effect that a preliminary study should be undertaken by the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, in co-operation with the Secretariat and the specialized agencies particularly qualified, on the requirement for and possibility of establishing an international navigation satellite system. If the Committee approves this suggestion, the place for the insertion of this recommendation would be in paragraph 23, after sub-paragraph (d), where communication satellites and meteorological satellites are referred to.

Mr. WALDHEIM (Austria): I should like to suggest that it might be better to insert this recommendation at the end of chapter B in the form of a new chapter C.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): We see no objection to this proposal, and indeed it may well be constructive. However, we should like time to examine it.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall therefore leave this question pending until delegations have had time to study the text.

We shall now pass on to heading C, Education and Training, paragraphs 24, 25 and 26, which form the introduction to the recommendations that follow. In this case too perhaps we should leave it to the Rapporteur, who has considerable experience in drafting, to shorten the introduction.

I hear no objection, and we shall now proceed to paragraph 27, recommendations. In this connexion, the Chair has received in writing some small changes proposed by the delegation of the United Kingdom, which would have the text read as follows:

"Expressing its satisfaction that technical assistance and training is available under the auspices of both the World Meteorological Organization and the International Telecommunication Union for preparing interested Member States for participation in or use of systems utilizing weather or communications satellites and encouraging continuation of these activities."

Is there any objection to the text which I have just read out? As there is no objection, it is approved. The Rapporteur will surely make a change in the paragraph which reads: "Further expresses its satisfaction that a considerable number of Member States have supplied the information included in the paper referred to in the second preambular paragraph above".

As there is no objection to paragraph 27 as amended, it is approved.

Paragraph 27 was approved.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now turn to heading D, International Sounding Rocket Launching Facilities.

Mr. de CARVALHO SILOS (Brazil): Speaking as the representative of Brazil and not as Rapporteur, I should like to propose an amendment to be included as a new paragraph to come after paragraph 31. It would read as follows:

(Mr. de Carvalho Silos, Brazil)

"The Brazilian delegation indicated the intention of its Government to request, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1802 (XVII), United Nations sponsorship for the sounding rocket launching facilities that have been established near Natal in the northeast of Brazil."

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee has heard the addition proposed by the representative of Brazil to be inserted after paragraph 31. Is there any objection?

As there is no objection, the addition is approved.

As there are no objections to paragraphs 28, 29, 30 and 31, they will be considered as approved.

Paragraphs 28, 29, 30 and 31 were approved.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now turn to paragraph 32, recommendations. If I hear no objection, paragraph 32 as it stands will be considered as approved.

Paragraph 32 was approved.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to the section entitled "Potentially Harmful Effects of Space Experiments". This section consists of paragraphs 33, 34 and 35 (A/AC.105/20, pages 16 and 17).

If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee approves those paragraphs.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We come now to the last paragraph, paragraph 36 (A/AC.105/20, page 17).

I should like to make one substantive comment on paragraph 36, which recommends that the Committee send with its report to the General Assembly the summary records of the proceedings of the Sub-Committee and the reports from the specialized agencies. A decision to annex the Sub-Committee's records and the reports of the specialized agencies to the Committee's report to the General Assembly would involve large-scale repetition of material already available in other United Nations documents. That would be contrary to the views on the control and limitation of documentation clearly expressed by the General Assembly in resolution 593 (VI) and should be resorted to only if there are real and demonstrable offsetting advantages. In the present case it is not certain that any increase in the value of the Committee's report would be commensurate with the increase in bulk. On the contrary, the additional material might well tend to divert attention from the substantive recommendations.

The increase in bulk would be considerable. The records of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee run to eighty pages. If, as would be logical, the Committee decided also to annex the Legal Sub-Committee's records and its own verbatim records, the total accretion would be of the order of 200 pages, all of them already distributed.

The Sub-Committee's original recommendation -- that the records and reports should be sent to the Assembly with the Committee's report -- appears to have been based on a misunderstanding of the facts. The Sub-Committee's records are circulated to all Members of the General Assembly in the normal way, as are the written reports received from ITU and WMO. The oral statements made by the other agencies and COSPAR in the Sub-Committee are, of course, reported in the summary records.

(The Chairman)

In those circumstances, it might be useful to replace the last part of paragraph 36 with the following text:

"Draws attention to the records of the proceedings of the Committee and of its Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee and to the reports of the specialized agencies, which have been circulated as documents" -- and then the appropriate document numbers would be listed.

If there is no objection to that text, the change would be made in order to save money. The effect would be exactly the same.

Mr. FRUTKIN (United States of America): May we assume that the summary records of the proceedings of the Sub-Committee will be available to all Member States which might desire to have them?

The CHAIRMAN: The summary records of the last session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee have been circulated in the general distribution to all Member States.

If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee agrees to that small change in paragraph 36.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: The same procedure will be followed in respect of the report of the Legal Sub-Committee.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.