

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space***Unedited transcript***567th** Meeting

Wednesday, 6 June 2007, 3 p.m.

Vienna

Chairman: Mr. G. Brachet (France)*The meeting was called to order at 3.08 p.m.*

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): Could I please ask distinguished delegates to be so kind as to take your seats and we will proceed with our afternoon's work. As you know, this afternoon, we have two clearly distinct parts to our meeting, up to 4 p.m. we will continue our examination of item 4 and I have a number of statements under that agenda item, general exchange of views, that will be followed by a high-level debate on space exploration between 4 and 6 p.m. Without further ado, I shall give the floor to those delegations that have asked to speak under item 4 and the first speaker on my list is the distinguished representative of Chile.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ-ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much, Sir. We are under item 4, I will therefore give you an opinion, I do not actually have a prepared text for the general exchange of views, I would simply like to address a number of points, based on what I heard this morning. A number of statements were made this morning and I would like to take up on what was contained within them.

Might I start by congratulating you and of course I do this in great sincerity, these are not just diplomatic congratulations, I am simply anxious to say that, I am thoroughly convinced of what I say, that is, that your chairmanship of our work is being done in an expert fashion and this is vital considering what we are debating. This is the framework for the statement that I should like to make. I am going to be speaking, naturally, as a Latin American, something I am very

proud to be. I am very proud to be Latin American in this context and I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to my friend, Sergio Camacho, he deserves a standing ovation, ladies and gentlemen, for the extraordinary work that he has accomplished and I entirely agree with what has been said in his regard. He has achieved an enormous amount and I would like to commend him for everything that he has done. I am terribly sorry to see him leaving us and this leads me to say, it is our right to know who is going to succeed to Dr. Camacho as the occupant of such an important post as Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

Diplomatically speaking, we are talking about a situation which is far from satisfactory, there have been some rumours that I have picked up and apparently there is a pre-selected list of candidates for the successors and three candidates have been mentioned in particular, but, in my opinion, it is not satisfactory that delegations are not aware of the ins and outs of the appointment of the future director, the future head of OOSA. This, as I have said, is unsatisfactory because the Office is not a private company, it is an organization and, as a member of that organization, it is our right to require that we be informed of the name of Dr. Camacho's successor.

This brings me to a number of other matters that were mentioned this morning but I would like to pay attention to this question of tribute because Dr. Cocca of Argentina has been left out. He is the architect of the idea of the common heritage of mankind and this leads me to say that, historically speaking, long before the Common Heritage of Mankind, this was a notion that he, himself, raised.

In its resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that, beginning with its thirty-ninth session, the Committee would be provided with unedited transcripts in lieu of verbatim records. This record contains the texts of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages as transcribed from taped recordings. The transcripts have not been edited or revised.

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Perhaps I stand to be corrected here but I think it was as of the 60s or 70s that the question of space law was raised and the heritage of mankind and international heritage and that, gentlemen, made an enormous contribution to these matters, not just in Latin America but by way of his involvement in the deliberations on the matter of space law and I am anxious to pay tribute to this major personality who, as I have said, was a representative of Argentina, a major neighbour of my own country, Chile. Might I turn to my friend from Argentina and request of him that he convey our gratitude for the efforts to which I have just referred, in the area of space law. We are talking about the person who was nothing less than the inventor of space law.

In addition to the above and, by way of paying tribute once again, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Peter Jankowitsch, who was in the Chair of our work and who did excellent work, in particular, in a very difficult period and, over a number of years, he chaired our work and we can talk about 19 years during which he chaired our Committee. Subsequently, he became Foreign Minister of Austria and we are talking about, therefore, of an eminent personality, someone who paid great attention to the links between Austria and developing countries. In addition, I am in a position to say that there are a number of common projects, joint Austrian/Chilean projects, which are part of this cooperation for which we owe so much to Dr. Jankowitsch.

I would also like to mention our Colombian friend who will be taking over the Chair of the Committee and whose work has been a close follow-up to what you yourself have done, Mr. Chairman. Your way of managing the debates has been to make comments and observations that have helped us to move our work forward and, in doing so, you have played a fundamental role, particularly when it comes to the future of this Committee and this leads me to say that, we need to think very carefully, in a fundamental way and focus, above all, on what was mentioned by my friend from Ecuador, who is not currently in the room, I am talking about the globalization of solidarity.

International solidarity is a matter that has been raised on a number of occasions but, if we look at the United Nations Charter and take note of a certain number of articles in the Charter and, indeed, General Assembly resolutions, if you take account of those documents and in particular, look at the preamble of the United Nations Charter, the conclusions that one can draw is that there is a necessity to cooperate, this is

resolution 2725 and this needs to be based on an effort made in a context of solidarity. There are matters of humanitarian law, there is the right of interference, the right for humanitarian assistance and so on and, in addition, there is the question of seeking to prevent crises, pre-empt crises and certain dangers from arising. The documents to which I have referred have been milestones in United Nations history and these are all documents at the disposal of the United Nations Secretary-General.

In the year 2000, the year of the Millennium Declaration, the word solidarity was much on our lips and, of course, that leads me to mention the Millennium Development Goals. This is a context in which the word solidarity and tolerance recur and this theme needs to be seen in the context of a fundamental matter, namely, economic and social development. This is a vital matter for consideration. What I am doing is establishing a link between these various different above-mentioned elements and all these elements are linked with the fundamental aspect of respect for the human being. It is in such a context that we must commit and undertake the international co-operation as mentioned. Having said that, international cooperation must, of necessity, be focused on today's world. Past threats are no longer relevant, they are not the same now, they have developed, threats have evolved, some threats no longer exist, others are emerging once again. Be that as it may, there are some threats which are still with us. Ultimately, we have to admit that we are faced with a number of new threats and we need to develop space law, bearing in mind, sustainable development. Sustainable development is a key matter today.

This brings me to the theme of terrorism. This topic is one of those threats where we have 13 international instruments but none of those instruments mention a definition of the subject, namely, terrorism.

In addition, another matter which must be mentioned is that of climate change as being one of these threats. What I have done is review a number of threats that need to be at the heart of our thought processes when we are talking about space law.

Another matter that I would like to address is that of the G8, meeting at this very moment. The G8 is a contextual forum where climate change will also be mentioned. Climate change should be debated, above

all, within the framework of the United Nations. Having said all that, I would like to say, on behalf of Chile, that we consider that climate change and efforts made to counter climate change, mean that we need to take steps within the framework of the United Nations. It goes without saying, therefore, that we need to cooperate in this area.

As regards Latin America in particular, we are making huge efforts, we have held five space conferences and they have led to action plans and that has meant that we have been able to broaden space activities and make them better known. Along with my colleagues from Venezuela, we were discussing that earlier, that there is going to be a Venezuelan space agency, this is also true of Colombia and, as regards Chile, we have a Chilean space agency and in addition, there are Brazil and Argentina that also have their own space agencies. We have noted that a critical mass has come about as a result of the Latin American space conferences to which I have just referred. In such a context, what we are seeking to do is to counter natural disasters, to try to counter the El Niño phenomenon and, against forest fires. In Chile, in recent times, we have set up three centres providing remote sensing services, sited in three universities in Chile and, given that we have taken these steps to make knowledge of space better known in the country, we have had a number of spin-off benefits and it is my hope that, in the report, there will be a paragraph which indicates that a space conference entitled "Space technology and climate change", that this is a conference that is going to be organized, a context in which we count upon the generous support of the United Nations via the Office.

This is a meeting to be organized under the aegis of the Chilean Government and to my mind, we are talking about a conference which deserves to be very well attended. I was talking about international cooperation and this leads to me to say that we have organized a number of conferences, I am thinking of the Cartagena conference in 2002 and 2005, there was another meeting to prepare for the 2006 meeting in Quito. These two conferences, which I have just mentioned, were highly successful and this was a result of the preliminary efforts by way of organizing.

There is another topic that I would like to stress and that is that of education and teaching, in order to counter under-development. In order to do this, we need to promote education and that is remote learning in particular.

Returning to the theme of climate change, I would like to stress the fact that Chile has a very long coastline, more than 4,000 kilometres and a very large population living at sea level. It is very important, therefore, that these people be prepared in advance, they are going to have to retreat inland in order to be protected against the effects of climate change and, it goes without saying that, climate change has an impact on the international stability and security. We are talking about a matter of international heritage. It is clear that climate change has an impact on humanity as a whole and, within the fiftieth anniversary of COPUOS, we cannot simply look backwards, what we need to do and what is fundamental is to look forward to the future and from the point of view of the developed countries. I am thinking here of Australia in particular, although Australia is not here at the moment, here it is notable that some significant progress has been made from the point of view of legislation and, in the context of developments with regard to climate change, it might be that we might see a negative result when it comes to the promulgation of data, that is my interpretation of recent Australian legislation. The important thing therefore, in my opinion, is to move towards real space law because we cannot otherwise count on spin-off benefits. My country is making every effort, as are others, making available its scientists, inter alia, but we are not achieving the hoped for results and one cannot deny the increasing threat of the militarization of space.

For the last 11 years, the Conference on Disarmament has been at work in Geneva and we are told that, all the same this has nothing whatever to do with outer space. What I would like know is, what is the mandate here? We are often told that such and such a matter has nothing to do with the mandate of our Committee. We are talking about the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space after all and, in this context, we should be concentrating on matters which might hinder the peaceful use of outer space. Would it not be a good idea for the chairmanship perhaps to provide us a document, which spells out the specific mandate of COPUOS and I would like to ask the Secretariat to be so kind as to provide a document which will allow us to debate this question of the Committee's mandate with a full possession of the facts.

I would like to come back to the question of international cooperation and I would like once again to mention this matter of solidarity, I am thinking here of countries like Sudan. It is important to promote projects to mitigate disasters and this can be done by

promoting a culture of peace. In addition, stress needs to be laid on information technology to make sure that all those that need it have access to information technology, taking into account, the benefits of outer space.

Given the various matters that I have mentioned and the conferences that have been held in Latin America, in this context, I would like to come back to the proposal made by Ecuador with regard to the role of the pro tempore secretariat. This is the implementation of the Quito Declaration and here, the delegation of Ecuador is counting upon our support for that implementation. That conference was a very successful one and that was largely thanks to a group of experts that was at work right from the beginning of the 90s, that was largely what underlay the success of this conference. We should acknowledge the role of that group, as well as, the role of others involved in the implementation of the action plan.

Before I conclude, I am anxious to say that, we need to make sure that the next General Assembly is apprised of a document from the chairmanship of the Committee and that that document should be a contribution, so that, as you yourself said, Mr. Chairman, we will be providing a document which will be the basis for a systemic and dynamic discussion and systematic discussion, for that matter and, as I have said, we need to draft a paragraph so that the next Chair is in a position to take account of this precious legacy which you are about to hand down. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): Thank you distinguished Ambassador González for your statement and thank you for the latter part of the statement in particular, which provides a lot of encouragement to the Committee and its work. The recommendations that should be presented to the General Assembly in October and we are in the process of preparing the report of the Committee in that regard. Now I am going to call upon the distinguished representative of the Philippines.

Mr. M. MONTEALEGRE (Philippines): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. At the outset, the Philippine delegation would like to express its satisfaction in seeing you once again chair our current session. We join other delegations in conveying our confidence in your ability to lead our deliberations towards a fruitful conclusion. The Philippines also

takes this opportunity to express our appreciation to Mr. Sergio Camacho and to commend him for his invaluable service to the work of this Committee.

Mr. Chairman, our fiftieth session is, indeed, an important milestone in the international community's collective effort to promote the peaceful use of outer space and to harness the uses of space technology and applications for the benefit of humankind. For developing countries, like the Philippines, the Committee's work has proven invaluable in ensuring that non-space-faring countries can also reap the benefits of advanced space technologies and applications, whose development is beyond most countries' resource capabilities. Through this Committee, the developing countries have been able to involve themselves in the development of an effective international legal order, ensuring that outer space-related activities and technologies remain within the limits of internationally accepted legal obligations and safeguards.

Taking advantage of the fertile ground that the Committee has cultivated since its inception, the Philippines has begun revitalizing its space technology applications programme and is focusing on the utilization of such applications to aid the country's sustainable development and its attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as, its realization of its quality of life objectives. The first step towards this revitalization was taken by the Philippine Government in November 2005, when it convened the first Philippine National Congress on Space Technology Applications and Research. Through this National Congress, participated in by stakeholders from the Government, the Academe, the private sector, and the Philippines was able to undertake a thorough stocktaking of its needs, capabilities and limitations in the area of space technology applications. These inputs were used to develop the medium and long-term plans for the development of a robust space technology application and research programmes. The programme to be implemented by the Philippine Department of Science and Technology, in cooperation with private and public agencies, will follow a two-pronged approach focusing on:

- national capacity building in the area of space technology applications, and
- the use of alliances with local and international partners.

The Philippines capacity building and international partnership programme is focusing on four key areas, namely,

- the development of expert manpower and relevant educational curricula and resource materials in the fields of remote sensing, geographic information systems and space technology tools in disaster management, bio-diversity, water and land resource management and food security;
- the rehabilitation and improvement of the country's Earth observation and monitoring systems, particularly those being used for meteorological, astronomical and geological phenomena;
- the promotion of networking among members of the Academe and relevant agencies, to facilitate data access, sharing, archiving and analyses, and;
- the pursuit of a public information campaign to promote and generate awareness on the importance and relevance of space technology applications to national development. This will be achieved through seminars, conferences, workshops, exhibits and similar activities.

The Philippines believes that, its current focus on the promotion and use of available space technology applications for sustainable development ends, is a necessary first step. Given our current level of development, we are committed to maximizing the benefits of space technology, chiefly to address fundamental economic issues and to sustain our economic growth which has reached record levels and has remained uninterrupted since 2001.

International alliances and partnerships will be crucial in the realization of our capacity building objectives in the area of space applications. We therefore appreciate the enabling environment that COPUOS has created over the years to help build such relationships.

Within the Asia-Pacific region, the Philippines is fortunate to have the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum which, since its inception in 1993, has facilitated such alliances through its annual meetings and other activities. Through the APRSAF, Asia-Pacific countries, such as the Philippines, are given the opportunity to discuss and promote regional cooperation on space-related matters within a flexible system, founded on voluntary participation, taking into account, the diverse needs of regional partners. We hope that the Committee will

also continue to extend its support and encouragement to bodies such as the APRSAF, whose objectives complement those espoused by COPUOS.

We believe that, with the guidance and opportunities for partnership provided by the United Nations and this Committee, space technology will continue to play a critical role, not only in driving economic progress but also, in helping developing countries address the serious threats posed by natural and man-made disasters. Like many of its neighbours in the Asia-Pacific ring, the Philippines sits astride the Pacific Ring of Fire and the typhoon belt area and is therefore highly vulnerable to nature's most destructive forces. The Philippines, however, is also prone to man-made catastrophes, such as those resulting from oil spills, given its archipelagic character and its location at the crossroads of high traffic international sea lanes.

Along these lines, the Philippine delegation would like to commend the Committee for its instrumental role in the General Assembly's establishment of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response, SPIDER, as a programme of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. By facilitating countries' access to all space-based information crucial to the disaster management cycle, SPIDER can help developing and disaster-prone countries, such as the Philippines, filling gaps in its disaster prevention and mitigation regime, thereby minimizing the social, economic and environmental costs of such events. The Philippines welcomes the significant progress being made by the Committee towards making SPIDER fully operational with the support of other member States. The Philippines looks forward to further progress being made by the Committee at this current session as it considers recommendations and measures relating to the activities of SPIDER, including the programme's work plan for the biennium 2008-2009.

In considering SPIDER's work plan, the Philippines hopes that the Committee will take all measures to ensure that SPIDER will take full advantage of the vital expertise and valuable experience of competent national authorities and relevant regional networks. In the Asia-Pacific region, we look forward to the development of an effective interface and symbiotic relationship between SPIDER and Sentinel Asia in its capacity as the region's disaster management support system. Sentinel Asia has played a crucial role in past disasters affecting the Philippines.

During the tragic mudslides in the Philippine province of southern Leyte, in late December 2006, for instance, Sentinel Asia provided satellite imagery that helped authorities devise response strategies, as well as, plans for preventing similar catastrophes in the future. We believe that the development of a strong partnership between SPIDER-end systems, such as Sentinel Asia, can only enhance the effectiveness of this ground-breaking UNOOSA programme.

As we commend the Committee for the many significant achievements it has achieved in the course of 50 sessions, the Philippines would like to affirm its strong support to the Committee as it explores more avenues to foster utilization of space technology to promote international peace and, support member States in their pursuit of national development. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): I thank Mr. Montealegre for his statement on behalf of the Philippines and obviously, I would like to convey our best wishes to you and to your country for the success of the activities resumed after the first meeting of the Congress on the application of space technologies, which was held in November 2005. I am now going to call upon the Ambassador of Colombia.

Mr. C. ARÉVALO-YEPES (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much. The statement, which I had the honour of making on behalf of GRULAC this morning, means that I do not need to deal with a number of general matters as I take the floor on behalf of my country. I would like to start by saying how pleased we are to see you chairing this session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and I would like to reiterate, on behalf of my country, once again, our gratitude to Sergio Camacho.

This is the fiftieth session of the Committee and it is the crossroads of three anniversaries and we are certain that our work will be enhanced by our attention to the achievements of the last 50 years of the space era and by the prospects of great application of space technologies for accelerated social, economic development for all countries in the short and medium-term and the new impulse to space research and exploration. My delegation considers that these anniversaries are of vital significance. In particular, the Committee has, over the years, become a body based on international cooperation, the aim of which is to

promote space research and exploration to make sure that it can be available to all countries, irrespective of their level of economic development. In this context, I would like to say that, we are celebrating an important anniversary of the establishment of the Colombian Space Agency and this was the result of a number of years of effort, addressed to this issue and I would like to say that, progress achieved in our country is something that will, no doubt, be addressed by the appropriate speaker on Wednesday.

I would like recall that it was the agreement on international cooperation which led to UNISPACE III. This was the conference which meant that the space agenda moved from being a competitive agenda to a development agenda and this is clear in the Declaration of Vienna, the UNISPACE declarations and here the point is, using space technology to deal with the world's major problems. These recommendations foreshadowed the Millennium Development Goals and they are very much in line with them, having said that, this is particularly important given the stage of UNISPACE now. The implementation of UNISPACE III is a contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In order to implement UNISPACE III recommendations as a whole, Colombia considers that this Committee's action plan, endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 59/2, October 2004, should be one of the main guidelines for the work of this Committee in the next few years. This should be complemented by an agenda which is more in line with the needs of developing countries. In such a context, Colombia would like to underline the importance and the need to establish and maintain a very important link between the work being done by this Committee and global agendas, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, the action plan of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2005 Summit document and in particular, the contribution of space technologies to the main problem, namely, climate change. As a result, Colombia considers that, we should request of UNDP, that it include the use of space technologies in its development programmes.

As regards the work of this Committee and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, we would like to underline the worthwhile contribution of the Subcommittee to promote the use of space technologies for economic and social development for all countries. Here, Colombia highly values the work of the Subcommittee in rendering space activities safer, via the preparation of guidelines, for the mitigation of

space debris and these were adopted at the last session and thanks to the work developed together with IAEA to develop a safe framework for the use of nuclear power sources.

Colombia would like to reiterate its position of principle on the geostationary orbit, namely, that this is a limited natural resource and it has *sui generis* characteristics, it runs the risk of saturation and this is something that was clearly demonstrated by recent studies, including a contribution made by Colombia. We consider that the use of the geostationary orbit should become more rational and it should be made accessible to all countries, irrespective of their current technical capacity. It should provide them all with the opportunity to accede to this orbit on the basis of equity and this should be done, taking into account, the needs of developing countries in particular and, taking into account, the participation and cooperation of ITU.

Within this Committee's working programme, Colombia takes note with satisfaction that, under the topic, measures to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes, the General Assembly agreed that the experiences of the Space Conference of the Americas could serve to encourage regional and interregional cooperation. Delegates will recall the conferences in Costa Rica, Uruguay, Colombia and Ecuador and, I would like to take this opportunity to mention the Sixth Space Conference of the Americas, that will be held in Guatemala in 2009. These conferences underline the advantage and the need of setting up effective cooperation and coordination mechanisms for the region, the aim being to promote the development of space activities for countries on the American continent for the application and peaceful use of technologies that derive from them. Taking into account the existing asymmetries, this conference has contributed to better understanding and grasp of space sciences, promoted cooperation between countries of the American continent and outside the continent and helped member countries with an interchange of knowledge and experiences in the area of space sciences and technology. I would like to support what Ambassador Raimundo González said, namely, that there is a need to recognize the contribution provided by the expert group. These are things that do not just happen spontaneously, we are talking about something that is the result of a whole series of activities and decisions that have been taken and the Committee has played an important role here and this has been the case for a long time now.

I would now like to address the question of the function of future activities of the Committee. Colombia's opinion is that this should be an on-going process, it should be open to initiatives from States and also from international organizations and it should be subject to no time limit. Colombia welcomes the unofficial considerations that you have been holding and the results of which can be found in document A/AC.105/L.269 and considers that these considerations should be pursued with a greater focus on the needs of developing countries, in particular, by way of bolstering and structuring international civil services. Here I fully agree with what Ambassador González has said. He said that the process underway should be pursued because this will mean that we will be able to think carefully about this matter and this is something which we can do in a context and with an innovative attitude in our way of addressing the situation. I would like to appeal to Ambassador González perhaps to start up a consultation process, there are a number of issues that we could consider, the contribution of space systems for better understanding and monitoring of the Earth is of great importance and great use when it comes to studying climate change and a host of phenomena which affects sustainable development. In the same way, the use of satellite system signals for global navigation has great potential for an increasing number of applications with social and economic spin-offs, it would be interesting to study how to promote them, in particular, in developing countries. In addition, education and training, both in the areas of space science and technology and the area of space law and national legislation, these are fundamental elements to ensure the access to the benefits of technologies which already exist, such as, derived from space exploration. It would be important to promote education and training on specific topics, via the action plans of the Committee and the Subcommittee. Such specific themes could include, natural disasters, environmental conservation, food security and the management of natural resources. In addition, it is important to look into how we might reinforce the capacity of the Office with regard to technical cooperation. How can we achieve stronger commitments which will help us to achieve more specific objectives and greater involvement of other players, including the private sector? Here, it is important to think about the liaison with specialized agencies of the United Nations, in particular, ITU. How much is this being done? Is there an organic link with that organization? There are organic links with other organizations already, after all, it seems to me that, ITU could, in a very profitable way, be associated with our work. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): I thank the Ambassador of Colombia for his statement. It is very helpful to us in considering the future activities of this Committee, this is something that was on the front burner, we are going to start working on that as of next year.

We have to stop here for the afternoon because it is time to move on to the special event, the high-level panel on space exploration. Before I adjourn this meeting, I would like to draw your attention to something that is going to happen later. At 6 p.m., the official opening of a multinational exhibition entitled, 50 years of space achievements, will take place in the Rotunda, downstairs and, after the opening of the exhibition, there will be a reception, organized by our friends from the Office for Outer Space Affairs, it will be in the Mozart Room, I believe.

Tomorrow we will resume our session at 10 a.m. sharp. We will continue the general exchange of views, under agenda item 4 and, under this item, the

Director of OOSA will also make a statement and then, time permitting, we will start discussion of item 5 and possibly, item 6, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III. I would like to remind you that, tomorrow, the meeting will take place on the seventh floor in Conference Room III, so we are not returning to this Board Room tomorrow morning. For that reason, please do not leave any documents or any of your possessions in this room because we will be moving to Conference Room III on the seventh floor. I adjourn this meeting for this afternoon and we are moving on to the high-level panel discussion.

The meeting closed at 4.01 p.m.