

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space***Unedited transcript*

596th Meeting
Friday, 20 June 2008, 10 a.m.
Vienna

Chairman: Mr. Ciro Arévalo-Yepes (Colombia)

The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Good morning, I declare open the 596th meeting of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

This morning we will continue and hopefully conclude our consideration of agenda item 15, Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

But before we begin our work, let me give the floor to the Secretariat so they can update on where we stand with the different documents that are going to be submitted for your approval this morning.

You have the floor.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, indeed, I will do so. Distinguished delegates, Addenda 1 to the document, Addenda 2 and Addenda 3 have already been distributed in the pigeonholes in all official languages of the United Nations. So you should have these three addendas before you.

The last remaining part of the report, Addenda 4, which contains the agenda item on other matters, agenda item 14, will be out in all official languages and we have been told at around 11.00 a.m. today and that addenda, addenda 4, will thus be distributed in the room. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Great, and thanks very much to Secretariat which who have positively responded to our request yesterday obviously. Let me thank them for the

efficiency. We know, we are fully aware of all the difficulties that this gives rise to. We know that you have really been very dedicated in this respect. We are very satisfied. We are going to then to have this final document around 11.00 a.m. which leads me to that we may be able to conclude by the end of the morning's session. At least I hope so.

In any case, let us begin our work now.

**Report of the Committee to the General Assembly
(agenda item 15)**

The report of the Committee to the General Assembly. Yesterday we adopted the first part of the draft Report, document A/AC.105/L.271.

Now this morning we will begin our adoption of the second part of the Report. This is document A/AC.105/L.271/Add.1, and this contains a part on item 8, Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its Forty-Fifth Session, and this has been distributed to delegates' pigeonholes this morning.

All delegates should have before them document A/AC.105/L.271/Add.1. This is the draft Report, Chapter II, the Report of the Legal Subcommittee(?), the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee(?) on its Forty-Fifth Session.

So I submit paragraph 1 of this document to delegates for their approval.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 2.

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.

Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, within one week of the date of publication, to the Chief, Conference Management Service, Room D0771, United Nations Office at Vienna, P.O. Box 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria. Corrections will be issued in a consolidated corrigendum.



It is adopted.

Paragraph 3. We adopt this.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 4. Paragraph 4 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 5. paragraph 5 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 6. Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 7. Paragraph 7 is adopted.

Adopted.

Now, one, United Nations Programme on Space Applications, (a), Activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications.

This is paragraph 8. paragraph 8 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 9. Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 10. Paragraph 10 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 11. Paragraph 11 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12. Argentina has the floor.

Mr. F. MENICOCCI (Argentina) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Chair. I just wanted to make brief mention of the thanks expressed by my country to all of the entities working in the United Nations in the space activities in the region. We would like to acknowledge the excellent work carried out by Alice Lee who has been very valuable in all of these activities and she is going to be leaving at the end of the year, as we all know, so we would like to have some kind of reflection in the text here of the gratitude of the delegates to Alice Lee.

Now, if I may, I would suggest that we add on the last line of paragraph 12 a text which would read as follows: "and expressed their gratitude for the excellent work by the Expert on Space Applications, Ms. Alice Lee, in leading the objectives of the Programme set forth for itself" or words to that effect.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Let me thank the Argentine delegate. Speaking as the Chair, and I think speaking for all members of the Committee, I am sure would agree to pay this special tribute to Alice Lee who indeed carried out a formidable effort, unfortunately is leaving us. It is certainly going to be in outer space activities afterwards and I think that this is very appropriate and to express our support here and I express our thanks to Alice. Thank you very much and all the best to you.

Now, with that additional text, we adopt paragraph 12.

Now to paragraph 13. Paragraph 13 is adopted.

Adopted.

Conferences, training courses and workshops, the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, paragraph 14.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 15. Paragraph 15 is adopted.

Adopted.

Paragraph 16 now. Chile has the floor.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. I just have a doubt. Perhaps you or the Secretariat can answer. I do not know if this is an appropriate time which this is if I am out of line, it is not a problem. Just let me know. Talking about the Space Conference of the Americas and in line with specific statement made by the Government of Ecuador, we are going to holding a seminar or a course actually of the International Expert Group and the Pro Tempore Secretariat in Galápagos in Chucangosa(?) and this is going to include themes like space law and others.

I think that somewhere in the report this should be included, and here we are talking about training courses and workshops and perhaps, and I know that there is previous mention of this, but my

question is this, should we reiterate that course here in this part? If this is not the place, that is fine.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): OK, let me give the floor to the Secretariat but, first of all, I think Ecuador was mentioning something about reiterating this event that is going to be held in Galápagos.

Mr. I. GARCÉS-BURBANO (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Indeed, as the Ambassador from Chile said, we are going to be holding the International Expert Group with the Troika(?) from the Conference of the Americas, from 29 July to 1 August. And I think this is in L.271, in paragraph 26, I believe. So I think it is covered there. I think that covers the concern expressed by the Ambassador of Chile.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Let me thank the distinguished representative of Ecuador for, first of all, the confirmation that that meeting will indeed be held in Galápagos. The Secretariat informs me that it is indeed already included in paragraph 26, as mentioned by the delegate from Ecuador. This is A/AC.105/L.271.

In that case, I think we have approved paragraph 16.

Paragraph 17 now, long-term fellowships for in-depth training, paragraph 17.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 18. Chile has the floor.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Chair. I think we have to express our gratitude for contributions we have received here. Perhaps here we could mention the cooperation we have had with CONAE in different courses that have been held in Chile. But perhaps Ambassador Menicocci from Argentina could say something about this but I know that they have held several courses in terms of technical cooperation that Chile has very much appreciated, or at least we should have Chile's special gratitude included towards Argentina here. But we would leave this up to the Secretariat to see how best to draft this. And I think concerning any listing here, Argentina could provide you with that information.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much delegate of Chile. And indeed in the entire Latin American area, CONAE

is very active and I think we will trust the Secretariat to come up with a text that interprets this general sentiment. Thank you.

Then we have approved 18 now.

Paragraph 19.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 20. Paragraph 20 is adopted.

It is adopted.

Technical Advisory Services, now paragraph 21.

It is adopted.

International Space Information Service, paragraph 22.

It is adopted.

Now, paragraph 23. paragraph 23 is adopted.

It is adopted.

This brings us to regional and interregional cooperation. Paragraph 24.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 25.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 26.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 27.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 28.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 29. Brazil.

Mr. A. TENÓRIO-MOURÃO (Brazil): Just a small question that is all. Is it missing "education" after "space science and technology" in the second line? The Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education. It is just that, thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much for that observation. Secretariat? Is it on the second line, your observation?

Mr. A. TENÓRIO-MOURÃO (Brazil): It is that the African Regional Centre for Space Science Technology in mind, just hyphenate, thus, in the French language, there is no "Education". It should be "the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education" in the French language.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): You are quite. This is a kind of generic term for the Centres that includes "Education". Thank you.

With that observation, we have adopted 28. Paragraph 29 now.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 30.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 31.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Chile has the floor.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Chair. Just a slight amendment in Spanish, in the first line. We want to add the word "strengthen", "forte de la ser(?)" (*Spanish*).

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. Japan.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Our delegation would like to add, paragraph 32, in the fifth line, we would like to add "APRSAF" after "Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum". Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine, that is a very pertinent observation.

And with those two additions from Chile and from Japan, we adopt 32.

Now paragraph 33.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 34 now. Chile, I think, wants to go back to 33.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Paragraph 33, in the second line, we would also, after the word "promote", we also say "to promote and strengthen", in Spanish.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, the Secretariat is pointing out that all of the other languages will be aligned to the amendment that Chile has just proposed.

Paragraph 34.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 35.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 36.

Adopted.

D. International Satellite System for Search and Rescue, paragraph 37.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 38.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 39.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 40.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 41.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 42.

It is adopted.

Now, matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite including applications for developing countries and the monitoring of the Earth's environment.

This is paragraph 43.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 44.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 45.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 46 now.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 47. Chile has the floor.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile)
(interpretation from Spanish): Yes, Chair, if we look at the definition of GEOSS here, at least in Spanish, one to have nine societal benefit areas, well we talked about the societal nature actually and I think we have to be consistent with what the information has set forth concerning its objectives. A societal nature is the way they phrased it.

The CHAIRMAN *(interpretation from Spanish):* You are quite right. In fact, the English text uses societal. Well, we will align this with the Spanish proposal here.

Ok, with that we have adopted paragraph 47.

Paragraph 48.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 49.

It is adopted.

Space debris, paragraph 50.

Paragraph 50 is adopted.

Paragraph 51.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 52.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 53. Germany, on paragraph 53.

Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN (Germany): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I was wondering whether one should not(?) add to the IADC Guidelines after the mention of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines which base, I think, our important role, playing an important role here. Maybe we could add a wording like “and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines at the COPUOS for development at the COPUOS” or something like that.

The CHAIRMAN *(interpretation from Spanish):* OK, we will give it that. We will use the entire title in all versions, in all linguistic versions.

OK, with that we have adopted paragraph 53.

Paragraph 54 now.

Adopted.

Paragraph 55.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 56.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 57.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 58.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 59.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 60.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 61.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 62.

It is adopted.

Four, Space System-Based Disaster Management Support. Paragraph 63.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 64.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 65.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 66.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 67. Paragraph 67 is a long one.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 68.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 69.

It is adopted.

Five, recent developments in global navigation satellite systems. Paragraph 70.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 71.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 72.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 73.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 74.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 75.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 76. The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Thank you Chairman.

There is a problem with the translation here and the text must be corrected a little bit. As is well-known, the International Committee on Global Navigation Systems is a member of ICG and international organizations. In Russian, at the very least, it is translated in the following way, that the membership structure of the International Committee includes members, associate members and observers and that currently nine States and 15 organizations are members of the ICG. However, these 15 organizations are not, strictly speaking, members of the Organization, it is the nine States. Then they have a number of other organizations. So what we should say something along the lines of, or rather delete the words "that the membership structure of the ICG includes", or rather, one should delete the words "that currently ..." so forth and so forth "were members of the ICG". And I will read the whole sentence in Russian, "the Committee noted that the membership structure of the ICG included members, associate members and observers and this currently includes nine States ..." and so forth. So we are referring about the membership structure, the membership structure includes all the governments or rather States and organizations. We are referring to the structure, the membership structure because for well-known reasons, the organizations cannot be full members. It seems to me that even in the English, there is scope for improvement. I am sure that someone with mother tongue English will amend the English.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, OK, the United States has the floor.

Mr. K. HODGKINS (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, my delegation had the same concern with this paragraph in the way the first sentence was structured, as our distinguished colleague from the Russian Federation. But perhaps we could read the sentence as amended by the Russian Federation and then I can come back and maybe improve upon that or perhaps that has already captured the distinction we want to try to make between the members and the membership structure. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you to both delegations for your observations. I think we need some written text here so the Secretariat can include this. We basically agree with the principle here of your observations. Yes, the United States again.

Mr. K. HODGKINS (United States of America): Well, thank you Mr. Chairman. May I now suggest to you that the sentence with the amendment

that we would propose we think would fix this. The sentence in the English version, the first sentence would remain the same until we reach the end of that sentence with the phrase “were members of ICG”. We would delete the phrase “were members of” and insert “participate in”. So the sentence would read as follows, “the Committee noted that the membership structure of ICG included members, associate members and observers and that currently nine States, the European community and 15 organizations, United Nations entities and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations participate in ICG.” So we have the two facts there. The one is the membership structure and then the fact that these entities, States and non-State organizations participate in ICG. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Let me thank the United States and I look at the Russian Federation and I see him nodding in agreement. So you agree with that drafting?

So, with that observation we have adopted paragraph 76.

Paragraph 77.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 78.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 79.

It is adopted.

Six, use of nuclear power sources in outer space. Paragraph 80.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 81.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 82.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 83.

Are we looking at paragraph 82 or 83, Venezuela? Please, do take the floor Venezuela.

So paragraph 82 is adopted and you will speak to paragraph 83. No, paragraph 83 is adopted.

Paragraph 84.

Adopted.

Paragraph 85. Venezuela.

Mr. R. NAVARRO (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. We would like to amend the text somewhat and I will tell you what we think. So the view was expressed until the Safety Framework had been clearly defined and progress and so forth on the use of nuclear power sources in outer space. The use should be, so it is really just the Spanish amendment, it should be “as limited as possible”. It does not change much in the English or French texts.

And then the sentence which starts “by that delegation”, Venezuela would propose that one should say “the delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was of the view”. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I submit this proposal of Venezuela’s regarding the two elements. So the first is a Spanish one only and then instead of having “that delegation”, to spell out the name of the delegation.

Venezuela, a comment on the same proposal? We would only change the name and add the word “_____ (?) (*Spanish*)” and instead of saying “was of the view”, we would say “expressed the view that”.

I give the floor to the Secretariat to make a proposal which would reflect your wishes.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): When in a paragraph a view was expressed by certain delegates, this is the normal reporting practice to say that the view was expressed when it was one delegation that expressed the view. And then when there is follow-up element in expression of view, it is effective to say “that delegation was of the view”. Now, what we can do in this case, we can take that last sentence “that delegation was of the view” that no justification and so forth, and we can put it in a paragraph 85 *bis* so it will be a separate paragraph to say “the Committee noted that the delegation of Venezuela, the Bolivarian Republic of, expressed the view that no justification”, and we will look into the correct language. But then it is clear that this is an expression noted by the Committee that Venezuela made this point. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well, I give the floor to the Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we did not have objections against the language “the view was expressed” instead of “the view has” or something like this, but there is usual practice of our Committee not to identify the country that expressed such a view. So I would like to bring it to your attention in order to decide in a proper way.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well, yes, does the Secretariat wish to add something?

I would ask the delegate of Venezuela whether we could take into account the comment just made by the Czech Republic and we would do what we usually do which is to, in Spanish, replace “la mas” by “maximo” and then state “that this delegation expressed”, “espresso” in Spanish. And this would mean that we would stick to existing practice. Very well, thank to the delegate of Venezuela.

We have thus adopted paragraph 85.

Paragraph 86.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 87.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 88.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 89.

It is adopted.

Seven, NGOs(?). Paragraph 90.

Adopted.

Paragraph 91.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 92.

It is adopted.

I apologize, Romania on paragraph 92, I believe.

Mr. D. D. PRUNARIU (Romania): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Taking into account the already accomplished activities concerning _____(?) within our Committee. My delegation wanted to propose a useful contribution to the work of the Action Team and the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects in developing draft international procedures for handling the near-Earth trap in accordance with the Multi-Year Work Plan in parentheses A/AC.105/911, RS3(?),para.11 and parentheses dot. The Committee started(?) noted that those draft international procedures would be presented in 2009 for the consideration of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Romanian proposal is an additional paragraph, 92 *bis*. So has everyone been able to take note of this text, write it down? It does seem to be the case. So with this proposal, 92, is adopted, along with 92 *bis*, as proposed by Romania.

Eight, International Heliophysical Year 2007, paragraph 93.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 94.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 95.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 96.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 97.

It is adopted.

Nine, examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and application including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries.

Paragraph 98.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 99.

It is adopted.

Ten, draft provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

Paragraph 100.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 101.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 102. It is a long paragraph.

It is adopted.

Final paragraph, paragraph 103.

It is adopted.

I would now like to submit this document to you as a whole, namely A/AC.105/L.271/Add.1.

Adopted.

So, let us now move on to A/AC.105/L.271/Add.2, draft Report, in fact, the Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-seventh session.

Paragraph 1.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 2.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 3.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 4. I give the floor to the Russian Federation.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Chairman, thank you. Yesterday, when we discussed Chapter II of the draft Report, the Russian Federation had proposed in

paragraph 42 to include a reference to our presentation on the deployment of weapons into outer space. I would like to clarify to ensure that everything is clear that our proposal will not be included in 42 but will be taken into account here. We agree with this. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank the representative of the Russian Federation. And so paragraph 4, as it stands here, with the comment made by the Russian Federation, is thus adopted.

Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space, paragraph 5.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 6.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 7.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 8.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 9.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 10. China has the floor.

Ms. X. GUO (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Chinese text in the Chinese version is somewhat different from the English version. The Chinese delegation hopes that the Chinese version will be revised in line with what is said in the English version.

In the “as necessary” as in the English version, but, however, the Chinese text gives us the impression that “as if necessary” which is different from “as necessary” in the English version.

So we hope that the corresponding changes will be made in the Chinese version. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, very well, I thank you. And, I for one, am convinced that there will be no difficulty in correcting the Chinese text as you just proposed.

In this case, paragraph 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 12.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 13.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 14.

It is adopted.

Two, information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.

Paragraph 15. The Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Excuse me Mr. Chairman, it is difficult to follow everything with greater attention so I apologize for my coming back to the part dealing with the Moon Agreement. I have not seen, at least, I apologize if I have made a mistake but I have not seen the support of the idea of the distinguished delegation of Austria to hold a Symposium prior to the beginning of the next session of the Legal Subcommittee and the issues relating to the Moon. It should be recorded "my delegation supported this idea".

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you very much to the Czech Republic. You are absolutely right. This is something very important which was proposed by Austria. Austria did so very clearly. You would like to see this included in which paragraph?

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Perhaps a short paragraph dealing with this particular support of this idea would be welcome, yes. I will leave it to the Secretariat.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well, thank you for your flexibility. The Secretariat has carefully taken note of your proposal and will incorporate it wherever the best place for it will be.

So we will now return to information on the activities of international and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.

Paragraph 15.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 16.

It is adopted.

Three, matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space, and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit, without prejudice to the role of the ITU.

Paragraph 17.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 18.

It is adopted.

Yes, I give the floor to Brazil.

Mr. J. MONSERRAT FILHO (Brazil) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Grieving your indulgence Sir, I would like to correct my name. In Monserrat has only one 't' at the end so it does not change anything in the English version but it apparently does in one of the other language versions.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): So we will remove a second 't' from your name. paragraph 18 is thus adopted.

Paragraph 19.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 20.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 21.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 22.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 23.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 24.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 25.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 26.

It is adopted.

Four, review and possible revision of the principles relevant to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space.

The Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am sorry, I apologize for again returning to part 3. I saw that under paragraph 19 there was an endorsement of the decision on suspension of consideration of the issue of aerospace objects. It is correct. However, there were also views of some delegations including of my own delegation that the discussion in the Working Group on the general problem of definition and delimitation is far from being exhausted and that it should continue in the Working Group. And my delegation particularly introduced an idea that perhaps the suggestion that had been made during the session of the Working Group last year by the distinguished Chairman of the Working Group, Professor Monserrat Filho, to organize a symposium within the Working Group on the problem of definition and delimitation of outer space should be a newly considered, should be reconsidered because it was a useful idea. So I expressed it exactly in our statement and I would appreciate if the Secretariat could include this support expresses verbis(?) in the draft report. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well. The Czech Republic is 100 per cent right. They want a discussion on this and the Secretariat will introduce this question on the delimitation of outer space. This is something which will be included by the Secretariat. Very well.

Paragraph 27.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 28. It is adopted by examination and review of the developments concerning the draft Protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment.

Paragraph 29.

It is adopted.

Now, paragraph 30.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 31.

It is adopted.

Six, capacity-building in space law.
Paragraph 32.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 33.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 34.

Adopted.

Next, paragraph 36.

Adopted.

Paragraph 37.

Adopted.

Paragraph 38.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 39.

Adopted.

Paragraph 40.

Adopted.

Paragraph 41.

Adopted.

Paragraph 42.

Adopted.

Paragraph 43.

It is adopted.

Seven, is this on 43? The Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I have just read very quickly Part 6 on capacity-building in space law and I welcome that under this part of our draft report our suggestion to organize the United Nations Workshops on Space Law could be held twice a year. This was a specific idea and I have not seen it reflected in the draft report. Again, I would kindly ask the Secretariat to include one sentence or two sentences on this suggestion in this part of the report because it is closely connected with the item capacity-building in space law.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Excellent. I think there is no problem with the Secretariat adding an additional paragraph reflecting that idea.

Now we finished six and we begin seven, General Exchange of Information on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space.

Paragraph 44.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 45.

Adopted.

Paragraph 46.

Adopted.

Paragraph 47.

Adopted.

Paragraph 48.

Adopted.

Paragraph 49.

Adopted.

This brings us to eight, Draft Provisional Agenda for the Forty-Eighth Session of the Legal Subcommittee.

Paragraph 50.

Adopted.

Paragraph 51.

Adopted.

Paragraph 52.

Adopted.

Paragraph 53.

Adopted.

Paragraph 54, which continues the draft Programme, provisional Programme or the draft provisional agenda.

Adopted.

Paragraph 55.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 56.

Adopted.

Now, E. Spin-Off Benefits of Space Technology: Review of Current Status.

Paragraph 57.

Adopted.

Paragraph 58.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 59.

Adopted.

Paragraph 60.

Adopted.

Paragraph 61.

Adopted.

Paragraph 62.

Adopted.

Paragraph 63.

Adopted.

Paragraph 64.

Adopted.

Paragraph 65.

All adopted.

I now submit the totality of the draft report for your adoption.

Nigeria, you have the floor and China.

Mr. J. O. AKINYEDE (Nigeria): Sorry Mr. Chairman. I do not intend to draw back the hand of the club but if we could allow a small amendment in paragraph 43. In line 3 where it says “and encourage member States” and then let us add “intergovernmental organizations” and then the sentence will continue.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Now, OK, if I have understood correctly in paragraph 43 we would say “encourage the member States and ideals” and then it would continue as it stands? Nigeria, would you be kind enough to reiterate your proposal please?

Mr. J. O. AKINYEDE (Nigeria): OK. Thank you. The proposal would read from line 3 after the reference to that document number and would continue “and encourage member States,” then we would add the new words “intergovernmental organizations,” and then the sentence would continue.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. I do not think there is any particular problem with this and I thank you.

It is adopted with that amendment.

I now give the floor to the People’s Republic of China.

Ms. X GUO (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to remind the Secretariat that in paragraph 58 in the Chinese version a country is omitted, Burkina Faso.

We would like to remind the Secretariat of this fact. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): OK, we will adjust the text. In the Spanish version Burkina Faso is indeed included. I think in English as well. So we will insert this in the Chinese text.

Now can we give blanket adoption or approval to A/AC.105/L.271/Add.2? But first Burkina Faso.

Mr. D. KABORE (Burkina Faso) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Chair. Indeed I wanted to make the same point as the Chinese delegation and consequently I thank you for making the appropriate amendment.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Burkina Faso. So then we adopt as a whole Add.2.

This brings us to Add.3, Space and Society.

Paragraph 1.

Adopted.

Paragraph 2.

Approved.

Paragraph 3. India.

Mr. A. BHASKARANARAYANA (India): OK, in paragraph 3, only a small correction. Space, the title is correct, “by SA” is given there. The “S” should be deleted. It should be “A. Bhaskaranarayana”. The “S” only to be deleted.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine, that will be taken into account.

Paragraph 3 is adopted with that change.

Paragraph 4.

Adopted.

Paragraph 5.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 6.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 7. Japan.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In the fifth line, it is mentioned about ISAEB and it is written about members in 2005 and it is correct but in the present situation, CNES has joined and so I suggest you add CNES about the present situation. This is my suggestion. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Let me thank Japan. So we will include CNES in that list as well.

Now that observation, we adopt paragraph 7.

Now paragraph 8.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 9.

Adopted.

Paragraph 10.

Adopted.

Paragraph 11.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12.

Adopted.

Paragraph 13.

Adopted.

Paragraph 14.

Adopted.

Paragraph 15. Chile has the floor.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Chair. I do not paragraph 15 reflects either the context or the positive legislation and things have been expressed, not just in this meeting but in many others. I think we have missed mentioning something that is very important here.

Now with our proposal we begin with the following words and I can read it to you now if you wish: "Under the framework of the MDGs as set forth in the General Assembly resolutions 55/2, adopted unanimously, the Committee decided" and then we would keep the text and paragraph as it follows.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Let me thank the Ambassador, Raimundo González from Chile. Well, you have contextualized in fact this paragraph by framing it in the appropriate United Nations General Assembly resolutions. However, everyone has been able to note the proposal.

The Secretariat.

Now before I give the floor to the Secretariat so that we can read the new version, I give the floor the United States.

Mr. K. HODKINS (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, my delegation observes that we are taking paragraph 15 as a view being expressed and now making this decision by the Committee from what I understand has been suggested by the distinguished delegate from Chile. So my question is that if we make this a conclusion or a decision by the Committee, are we asking the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to take a different approach in its work than what it currently is? If you see what I mean, it is saying that we have decided that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications should place more emphasis on supporting education and training for capacity-building in developing countries and so forth. Now, if they are not doing that today, then we are asking them in this paragraph to do that. Now do we have to go back and look at the Programme on Space Applications and the activities that we have already approved in order to make sure that it is consistent with this? That is the concern I have because if it does not mean anything different than what the Space Applications Programme is already doing, then why are we making this change and kind of restating the obvious? Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you for your observations which I think is going to respond to.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. Well, the fact is that I do not have time or even want to go into a debate which would be totally bureaucratic in nature. The substantive problem here is do we agree or not with the 55/2 United Nations General Assembly

resolution? The rest of it is just bureaucratic. Now, if the Committee does not want to approve Chile's approval, we will ask for a separate paragraph expressing our lack of satisfaction with the fact that this was not approved under certain conditions but that is getting very bureaucratic. The United Nations Programme on Space Applications obviously has to do with education and fighting illiteracy and these are part of the MDGs. Now, as I remember, the United Nations delegation also approved 55/2 and among the MDGs, education is one of the goals. And within the themes of our United Nations Programme is also this but we do not want to go into excessive debate and discussion and waste a lot of time on this now. The United States delegation insists on opposing this change, we will ask for a separate paragraph. I do not think we need to get into a bureaucratic debate. This is a substantive issue here. This Committee, among its objectives, in its mandate, one of the things is to have this kind of capacity-building for space. We are not talking about exploring Mars or sending rockets to Jupiter. For our countries it is much more important to this sort of field of education and illiteracy, already contemplated by the Space Conference of the Americas. As I said, it is not the time for us go into debate on the bureaucratic aspects of this.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): We thank the Chilean delegation. Well, we have two observations here, one proposal and an observation on the proposal which I do not think are necessarily incompatible in my opinion, but I will give the floor to the Secretariat to propose if it will, some wording that we can submit for the consideration of delegates.

Let us open a parentheses here. Let us set aside paragraph 15 while we work on a proposal from the Secretariat. When we come to the end of the document, we can come back to 15 unless the Secretariat has something hot off the press or should we wait until the end?

OK, the Secretariat would prefer to make a proposal right now. You have the floor Sir.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Deputy Secretariat, Office for Outer Space Affairs): So what the Secretariat proposes what could be done is that paragraph 15 would be amended as follows: "The Committee noted that illiteracy and a lack of adequate education continued to constitute major problems for developing countries" and then we need to find a way of linking these to the Millennium Development Goals but it could be like "for developing countries, as stated within the framework of the Millennium Development

Goals as set forth in General Assembly resolution 55/2" or adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/2. Something like that. We will drop this but anyway.

Now, that is one element, the Committee noted this fact. Now it is a second element, the view expressed that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications should place more emphasis on supporting education and training for capacity-building in developing countries and also strengthen international cooperation. And that is an element that is a view expressed that the Programme on Space Applications should place more emphasis on this particular programme and that should be then a separate paragraph. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): OK, in this order, I give the floor to Chile and then to the United States.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINIT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I would rather speak after the United States.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): He would prefer to speak after you, the United States delegate, you have the floor.

Mr. K. HODGKINS (United States of America): Well, thank you Mr. Chairman. The proposal by the Secretariat is acceptable to the United States and I would suggest that we, instead of having a separate paragraph, we could amend the second part of this paragraph as follows. After the phrase "and that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications", I would delete "should place more emphasis on" and say "could play a useful role in". So it would read "that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications could play a useful role in supporting education and training for capacity-building". So the whole paragraph would be the view of the Committee and we would not need two separate ones. So it would be the amendment proposed by the United States plus the amendment proposed the Secretariat that would then express the view of the Committee on both aspects of this paragraph. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chile has the floor.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): It is always good to talk after important countries take the floor. It seems to me useful that we make this clear. I, in fact, agree with

what the United States has proposed and with the Secretariat's proposal. It is clear that we have to mention that General Assembly resolution and the MDGs in any case.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very clear and I thank both delegations for reaching an agreement on this.

As it stands then we adopt 15 and we move to 16.

Brazil.

Mr. J. FILHO MONSERRAT (Brazil) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. The paragraph as it stands here, it does seem to be totally linked to the substantive issue that is dealt with in this part of the report. So I would propose that at the end we add a sentence like "and education on space applications" could be very useful in this respect, because just to make it clear again, it says here that we should consider concrete ways to overcome the potential or shortage of scientists, mathematicians and engineers the development of developing countries will be facing in the next millennium. So the problem here is what is the role of space education in this? That is the issue. And to clarify this, I think we need to add some words that link this state of fact to the question of space education and to fit in better with the entire theme here.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I fully understand your proposal. You generally, we got the diagnosis here but not the remedy and that is what you are saying, we are raising the problem and we are not giving any indication to a solution. However, we will work on this and we will come back with this. But I do not think there is any particular problem for the house here. It is a very pertinent observation on paragraph 16 from Brazil.

So we will leave this pending.

Paragraph 17.

Adopted.

Paragraph 18.

Adopted.

Paragraph 19.

Adopted.

Paragraph 20.

Adopted.

Paragraph 21.

Adopted.

G. Space and Water. Paragraph 22.

Adopted.

Paragraph 23.

Adopted.

Paragraph 24. Paragraph 24 are the titles and authors of the technical presentations.

Adopted.

Paragraph 25.

Adopted.

Paragraph 26.

Adopted.

Paragraph 27. Algeria. So I have two requests for the floor. I have Algeria followed by Iraq and then Japan. Algeria.

Mr. A. OUSSEDIK (Algeria) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Chairman, thank you. In the fourth line in the French text, I would propose that, on the fifth line, I apologize, again in the French text, that the joint Algerian-Libyan Jamahiriya Monitoring Programme of Sub-Saharan Water Resources, and to add to this "in the Southern Sahara", which is the region which is of interest to the three countries involved in this Programme.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes very well. Thank you. This is clearer. It specifies the regions. So thank you. Iraq.

Mr. Y. A. ALI (Iraq) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Chairman, thank you. At the beginning of paragraph 27, there is a reference to an initiative on marshlands between Canada and Iraq. We have indicated that this project had enjoyed the contribution of a number of States and organizations. This is why we would not want one State only to be mentioned as the contributors, so we would delete the word "Canada" and have a form of wording which would be

more general in nature or perhaps include all the countries and organizations which participated in this marshlands initiative. Thank you Sir.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well, thank you. So if I understand this correctly, you would ask us to delete the name of one country and choose a form of wording which would be more general.

Mr. Y. A. ALI (Iraq) (*interpretation from Arabic*): One should refer, Chairman, to the international initiative of the marshlands initiative and not have the name "Canada" which is the only country which is listed here but other countries had also participated in it. So I would prefer us to have something on the lines of "the international initiative" and so would not just have one name of one country. Thank you Sir.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I understand, yes. So this is a project which involves a number of countries and if only one name is included here it would be somewhat discriminatory in nature. So we will work on this and take your concerns into account.

And I now give the floor to Japan.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In our statement, we mentioned about the Global Precipitation Measurement Project, GPM, which is a joint Japan-United States initiative, and also we mentioned the International Chapter on Hydrological Assessment and Risk Management, ICHARM. So we would like to add this information in this paragraph. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): We have understood the thrust of the first proposal but the second part we did not entirely understand what the acronym was. Could you please repeat it?

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan): The International Chapter on Hydrological Assessment and Risk Management, namely ICHARM. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you very much. We will include this as you have just proposed.

India now, followed by Argentina and then Uruguay. India you have the floor.

Mr. A. BHASKARANARAYANA (India): OK, just a small spelling correction, line number six, first word, Gandhi is spelt "Gandhi". OK, thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank you for this amendment. Of course, the name of such an eminent person has to be spelt correctly.

Argentina.

Mr. F. MENICOCCHI (Argentina) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Sir. My delegation would to this paragraph wish to add, if the Chilean delegation agrees to this, a reference to the Joint Monitoring Project between Chile and Argentina, monitoring of snow-cover in central areas of the country because this is a project which will be expanded to the whole of the Andes.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I will start by giving the floor to Chile.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I will be very brief Sir. Very little else could gratify me as much as this proposal.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): So this is what we will do.

Uruguay.

Mr. R. VEDOVATTI-RAFFO (Uruguay) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chairman, thank you. I merely wanted to refer to what was mentioned by Argentina and Chile. There is no reference here to work undertaken jointly between Chile and Argentina in the Andes and this is what I wanted to mention.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. Uruguay thus seconds Argentina's proposal.

Brazil.

Mr. J. MONSERRAT FILHO (Brazil) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chairman, I wanted to add a reference which we made during our work to the joint setting up or creation by Argentina and Chile of a satellite which will assess hydrological resources and coastal resources. We referred to this, this hydrological satellite, and this reference is not included here in this paragraph. We also referred to a Southern Atlantic Cooperation Programme between Argentina, Uruguay, South Africa, Namibia, Angola and Brazil to

study the whole of the South Atlantic region with the use of space-based resources which play a very important role.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. So if you have a form of wording or something, perhaps you could hand it to the Secretariat and they will include it.

Chile.

Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. Firstly, I believe that what Brazil has said is very pertinent, a significant collaborative effort is underway, it is a not standing effort but there is a small problem at the end of paragraph 27 and this might affect only the Spanish version. At the very end, when we refer to GEO, we refer to social benefits and in Spanish it should be societal benefits.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. We will make these corrections to the Spanish.

A number of comments were heard on this paragraph, very interesting ones, which showed a great deal of interest shown in these activities.

Any additional comments?

No. The paragraph is thus adopted.

Paragraph 28.

Adopted.

China has the floor.

Ms. X. GUO (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to make sure that we are on paragraph 29. With regard to paragraph 29, I have several proposals.

The first one is to delete in the English version, fourth line, in the fifth row, the formation, because we know that quakelakes are created by the earthquakes. It is not something that we can control. And that is my first point.

For the second point, there is a slight difference in the Chinese version and the English version. In the English version, the last sentence, the last part of the last sentence, “threaten the lives of millions of people”, that part was not duly reflected in the Chinese version. The Chinese delegation is very

flexible whether we should retain that part or not but it is our hope that we can have identical, I think we have the same meanings as were reflected in those versions.

Thirdly, the word “quakelakes” in the Chinese version, we do have three and that is three Chinese characters which is Yen So Hu(?) which is some wording in line with our habitual habits. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank the representative of China for these comments on paragraph 29. I think that there should be no great problem with this and it is important that the Chinese version include these aspects which are extremely important for China and, of course, our sympathies go out to you.

Paragraph 29, following the Chinese comments, has been adopted.

Paragraph 30.

Adopted.

Paragraph 31.

Adopted.

H. International Cooperation in Promoting the Use of Space-Derived Geo-Spatial Data for Sustainable Development.

Paragraph 32.

Adopted.

Paragraph 33.

Adopted.

Paragraph 34. India.

Mr. A. BHASKARANARAYANA (India): OK, thank you Chairman. On the fifth line, again a small correction to the initials. It is “K. Radhakrishnan”, “S” should be deleted. Thank you Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you for this correction. It will, of course, be reflected in the report.

Adopted.

Paragraph 35.

Adopted.

Paragraph 36.

Adopted.

Paragraph 37.

Adopted.

Paragraph 38.

Adopted.

Paragraph 39.

Adopted.

Paragraph 40.

Adopted.

Paragraph 41.

Adopted.

Paragraph 42. Brazil has the floor on paragraph 42.

Mr. J. MONSERRAT FILHO (Brazil) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. This paragraph reflects what was stated by our delegation and one of the most important parts of Brazil's statement is the concept in which space-derived data based on Brazil's experience are public goods, available to everyone. So we would like this very important concept which is the theoretical doctrine, the basis of what we do, should be included here. And perhaps this is a concept which could be included at the beginning of the sentence by saying something along the line that the view was expressed that as space-derived geo-spatial data are things which are available openly and should be free access to it. In fact, it concerns the Spanish version more than the English version.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank Brazil. This is something which you had expressed, this concept of a relationship between open access and the Secretariat has taken note of this? Yes, very well. Thank you.

Paragraph 42 is thus adopted.

Paragraph 43.

It is adopted.

And the last paragraph in this document, paragraph 44.

No comments.

Now I submit the entire document for blanket adoption. Are there any observations on the totality of Addendum 3?

I see none. So the document is adopted.

Add.3 is adopted.

The Secretariat is going to present Add.4 to us and suggest how to proceed with its adoption. You have the floor.

It is very simple. The Secretariat want to announce that we have Add.4 and it is going to be distributed and we are going to give delegates a bit of time to read through it and then we will proceed with its approval, adoption paragraph-by-paragraph, and I see that they are in the process of distributing, the assistants have come into the room.

Short Break

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Distinguished delegates, this brings us to Add.4 of A/AC.105/L.271. This is Chapter II. Other Matters.

We shall proceed as we have already this morning.

Paragraph 1.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 2

Adopted.

Paragraph 3.

Adopted.

Composition of the Bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2010-2011.

Paragraph 4.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 5.

Adopted.

Paragraph 6.

Adopted.

Paragraph 7.

Adopted.

Paragraph 8.

Adopted.

Paragraph 9.

Adopted.

Paragraph 10.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 11.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12.

Adopted.

Paragraph 13. France.

Mr. M. HUCTEAU (France) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Chair. We just wanted to add to line 5, 7 and 8 February 2008 in Paris. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much for that detail. With that amendment, paragraph 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. The Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Mr. Chairman, I understand that paragraph 14 is the only paragraph that deals with the reaction of some delegations to the proposal made by the distinguished Ambassador of France. But, for example, my own delegation expressed the support to the idea of collaborating the sustainable development of space activities. So it was not only interest, it was also support for consideration of this, for further

consideration of this important initiative so perhaps paragraph 14 should be enlarged in this manner. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much indeed. One thing is something that expressed an interest and that is another thing they want to really be a part of the process. So I think we can broaden this to express this feeling that is shared by several delegations.

Paragraph 15.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 16.

Adopted.

Paragraph 17.

Adopted.

Paragraph 18.

Adopted.

Paragraph 19. The Russian Federation.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Chairman, thank you. Our delegation has a proposal to include a very small change to the Russian text. This concerns little (a) in paragraph 19 in which the first word “_____ (*Russian*)” commitment is not sufficient in the Russian language because into the English it would mean legal obligations if you were to translate it into English. And the thrust of this paragraph is not about legal obligations which is clearly why it says “commitments” or “compromito(?)” in Spanish, “commitments” in English. So I would replace this word “_____ (*Russian*)” with the word “breviashonist (*Russian*)” which will require no change in any of the other languages. I am referring to English, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and French. Thank you Sir.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine. So we will be making that change solely in the Russian language version and the others will be maintained as they stand.

With that, we adopt paragraph 19 and we move to paragraph 20.

Adopted.

Paragraph 21.

Adopted.

Paragraph 22. The Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): May I still return to paragraph 21 because, you know, it is quite rightly expressed here that the purpose of this clarification should be to avoid the danger of fragmentation(?) of international law, this I agree. But, at the same time, I also was drawing attention of the Committee to a danger of the weakening of the obligatory instruments of space law by a new document that might be different, that might be not obligatory and that might in this way to a certain degree weaken the role and obligatory force of the United Nations space treaties. So it should be expressed here. In my opinion, it is a significant argument.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine. So we would compare this statement to the idea for viability of the obligatory nature of international space treaties, or words to that effect, in an additional sentence.

OK, the Secretariat has taken note of that, and with that, I think we can adopt this paragraph 22.

Adopted.

Paragraph 23. The Russian Federation.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Thank you Chairman. In my view, the comments and proposals which were voiced by the Russian Federation during the consideration of this issue are not completely reflected here. It is, of course, a pleasure that our consent to avoid any duplication of efforts was reflected and the fact that there should be no fragmentation in international law. However, paragraph 23 which states that the Committee was of the view that all matters merited further consideration. I am referring to sustainable space activities, the Code of Conduct, which are all worthy of further consideration. I would like to remind you that the position of the Russian delegation was the following. I stated that before the Committee should take a clear and ambiguous position regarding the further consideration of issues such as the Code of Conduct, the Committee should engage in a prior in-depth analysis of this initiative, devoting special attention to the clarification of the objectives and mandate of the conduct, its scope, its legal status,

its relationship with existing international legislation in the field of space.

I would like the position of our delegation to be appropriately reflected in the report. This might require the inclusion of an additional paragraph or subparagraph into Section 3, or perhaps into paragraph 23, in a very condensed way. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): OK, thank you very much to the delegate from the Russian Federation. Could I ask you to kindly propose and turn over to us a written text reflecting what you have just said to facilitate our work.

You have the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Yes, I will do so.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. The Czech Republic has the floor.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) (*interpretation from Russian*): Chairman, the view expressed by the distinguished delegation of the Russian Federation is in line with the view of my delegation. We second this proposal made by the distinguished delegate of the Russian Federation.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine. And I would suggest that the representative of the Czech Republic work hand-in-hand with the Russian delegation on this text.

Fine. Now this new paragraph would be then approved later.

Paragraph 24 now.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 25.

Adopted.

Paragraph 26.

Adopted.

Paragraph 27.

Adopted.

Paragraph 28.

It is adopted.

Paragraph 29.

Adopted.

Paragraph 30. Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. NAVARRO (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chairman, in the Spanish text, at the beginning of the fourth line, we would ask that the word “interehanca(?) (*Spanish*)” be changed for “entendiro(?) (*Spanish*)” in the Spanish version. And later in the next to last line, where it says that “they will request” should be “should request this consultative entity”.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you for that observation. If there are no objections, we will adopt the paragraph with the Venezuelan amendments.

Paragraph 31. Is this on 31 Venezuela? You have the floor.

Mr. R. NAVARRO (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chairman, the text for 31, we would ask that this be changed “several delegations expressed the opinion the granting of permanent observer status to non-governmental organizations should be carried out in an orderly and regulated way, fully meeting the directives set forth by the Committee at its thirty-third session held in 1990” while, as well as see studying the case of each entity, how it has made an contribution to the efforts of the Committee before its approval. As a part of the United Nations system, the Committee must respect the procedural to the obtaining of this status prior with ECOSCO, in conformity with the appropriate resolution of the General Assembly and we ask that the Secretariat present, in writing, a list of permanent observers to the Committee and the requirements that they have made up to this present time.

Likewise, in the text yesterday, we share the following: “the Committee agreed on the need of revising” and this is what I want to add, in a near-future or in a short-term, and the text would continue as it reads already.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you. This is a rather long proposal so I really have to ask you to provide us with

the written text so that we can consider this with greater attention. Do you have a second copy? Sorry.

Thank you for your patience. Let me turn to the distinguished delegates so we can hear once again the proposal from Venezuela, according to the document that I have received here. What we are talking about here is replacing paragraph 31, instead of saying “the Committee”, it says “several delegations”. Yes, Venezuela.

Mr. R. NAVARRO (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): No, it would not replace it. In other words, this would be a text preceding the text that we have here already and which shall read “several delegations expressed the opinion” and then it would read as follows. This is in capital letters in our text that we turned over to you. And in addition to this, there would be a variation of the text that was presented here. We would add “in a near future or in the short term” and so on. It is not substituting the entire text, it is adding to it.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I understand. OK, let us begin with the latter which is simpler. It is 31. It says “the Committee agreed on its review in a near future or in the short term” that sentence would be included in the middle of the first sentence, “in the near future or in the short term” which I think does reflect discussions that took place here.

If there is no opposition, we can approve that amendment to 31.

Bolivia, is this on 31?

Mr. P. MARCA-PACO (Bolivia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, it is on the same paragraph Sir. I would have something to add, a very simple amendment. After the term “granted”, on the granting of permanent observer status, words that would reflect the permanence of the fact that we can decide on the permanent nature of the observers’ status, which I think is a kind of a logical extension if we have the decision to decide on their status, a decision to make it perennial or not.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): I think that is true. That is one of the topics that was discussed. So let me repeat. We are going to adopt 31 with the two amendments, one from Venezuela and the other from Bolivia. “The Committee agreed on the need to review in a near future or in the short term its rules and procedures on

the granting and on the permanency of observer status”.

I see no objections to that.

It is adopted.

Now we go back to the paragraph that Venezuela is proposing which, if I understood him well, would be somewhere between 30 and 31. Is that where you wanted the text?

Mr. R. NAVARRO (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes. It would be, in fact, at the beginning of 31 or 31 would be two paragraphs and we will begin with the first one “several delegations expressed ...” and so on and so forth.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): But perhaps distinguished delegate of Venezuela, one said various delegations and the other says the Committee. So for the sake of logic here, I think they should separate, two separate paragraphs, one where the Committee expressed and the other several delegations expressed.

OK, so we agree on that at least. I will read it out again. This is a separate new paragraph. “Several delegations expressed the opinion that the granting of permanent observer status to NGOs to the Committee should be made in an orderly and regulatory way following directives asked by the Committee at its thirty-third session in 1990 and should also see how these organizations have contributed to the work of the Committee following their inclusion. One of the delegations was of the opinion that the Committee, as part of the United Nations system, should respect the procedure relative to the granting of permanent observer status to the consultative status to ECOSOC under 1996/31 resolution of the General Assembly and ask that the Secretariat present in writing their report on the permanent observers to the Committee and the requirements that they had fulfilled up to the present date.”

So I submit this for your consideration.

Mexico, then the United States.

Mr. S. CAMACHO-LARA (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chair. Just a suggestion in terms of word choice. Instead of saying “several delegations”, “a few delegations” which, I think, is more usual. In Spanish, “algunos(?)” (*Spanish*) “some delegations.”

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): The United States. No? Fine. OK, with that I think then we can adopt the paragraph proposed by Venezuela which would be, for the time being, a paragraph 30 *bis*.

I see the Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. My delegation would welcome if we could deal with this formulation on a written basis. I listened to your reading this full text and it a little bit surprised me that some terms like “should be made in an orderly and regulatory way” or something like that, this is a language that is not quite appropriate. So I would kindly request the Secretariat to polish a little bit this text in order to make it more adequate to our work in the Committee. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Czech Republic. I have just consulted with the Secretariat. What we are going to do here following that proposal from the Czech Republic, “some delegations”, it is not the Committee’s position, it is some delegations.

Now if you have a text to submit to us which reflects what you have said during the discussion to balance this out, that would be fine. But this is indeed a opinion expressed by some delegations and we will maintain that in the text on the basis of the Venezuelan proposal.

Yes, you have the floor Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Of course, I fully recognize that this was the view of some delegations but I wanted only to request, through you, those delegations to polish perhaps with the assistance of the Secretariat this language because if somebody reads it, so he would have the impression that something was not quite orderly and regulatory in the decisions made in the past and the decisions that we have made at this session. So this was just for your consideration.

As to the position of my delegation, yes, I could be able to add another sentence, perhaps I should hint a little bit about it, but saying that the view was expressed that the consideration on granting of permanent observership status has been made in accordance with the rules established in 1991. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine. I understand your suggestion and we will include the paragraph that you want to include here. Let me turn to Venezuela and ask them if they want the Secretariat to work on polishing up the text, as the Czech Republic has put it. Yes, you have the floor.

Mr. R. NAVARRO (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): There is no problem in accepting polishing, modification, variation, as long as we maintain the thrust of the paragraph, the meaning. I have no problem with cosmetic changes on the text that are going to clarify this.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much for that constructive spirit and we will then come up with a text that does indeed reflect what you said and which also reflects the concerns of the Czech delegation.

Fine. That was the last paragraph for approval here which leads me to propose Add.4 in its totality for adoption by the house.

Japan.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, may I get back to number four proposing new items on the agenda of the Committee?

We have a question. May I get back to number four, propose new items on the agenda of the Committee? And I have a question. Is it not necessary to write something about food security. In my understanding, after a technical presentation, the distinguished delegation of India suggested food security to the new agenda item and we think no objection here. But we cannot find about that. So we would like to clarify that point. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Before I give the floor to India, who would certainly want to speak here but let me give the floor to the Secretariat first for its interpretation on your concern.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, to respond to the question by the distinguished delegate of Japan, it relates to paragraph 25. Now, as the Secretariat interpreted it, it said that India proposed an inclusion of a new agenda item on space and climate change and that within that item there would be several

challenges to humanity, several issues to be considered, including among them food security. So that is how we interpreted this proposal but maybe the Indian delegation would like to clarify it.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): India.

Mr. A. BHASKARANARAYANA (India): Thank you Chairman. I think the interpretation given by the Secretariat is what we also meant, space and climate change was the primary theme that we proposed, everything else would come under that.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much for that clarification which we agree with and the Secretariat. And Japan, do you also agree.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan): Yes thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Fine. The Secretariat wants us to wait further.

Now, in order to approve, give blanket approval to the report, we need to have a definition of paragraph 23 here, which talks about the Committee as a whole. Now, let me ask the Russian Federation if they have a text ready that they suggested earlier in this respect. Do you have something written that we can work on here or perhaps they could present it orally? Thank you.

The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Thank you Chairman. I will read it in Russian for now, our joint proposal with the delegation of the Czech Republic. We propose to include this proposal as a paragraph 22 *bis*. If the Committee agrees on the text, it would be along these following lines:

“Some delegations expressed the view on the issue of the Code of Conduct within the framework of the Committee that within the framework of the Committee there was a need to conduct an in-depth analysis of this EU initiative paying special attention to a clarification of the objectives and tasks of the Code of Conduct, its scope of application, legal status, as well as its relationship with the existing space law legislation”. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Russian Federation

presenting this on behalf of the Russian Federation and the Czech Republic, as a 22 *bis*. The Secretariat has duly noted.

Now, with that we can approve and adopt the totality of A/AC.105/L.271/Add.4.

It is so decided.

Thank you very much distinguished delegates.

A final decision of approving the report as a whole, which I now submit to you, the report and the four addenda.

I see no objections.

The report as a whole is adopted. Thank you.

Well distinguished delegates, this brings us to the end of this session. I believe that it was a very dynamic, very constructive session, one in which new ideas, in fact the very tissue of the Committee has been renewed and rejuvenated in a very interesting stage reached in everyone of us of this Committee. The challenges are indeed formidable. They require cooperation, joint efforts and, above all, something I have seen in doing this session, a great determination to work together.

With these words, let me express my thanks to one and all and in particular on your behalf, let me thank the Secretariat for the very impressive task that they have accomplished and as well thank them for the extra time granted during today's session. Let me thank the Vice-Chairmen for the support they have provided me with and in general terms to the whole technical term, to the interpreters who have also been working marvellously, the engineers, technicians, on behalf of the members of the Committee, a thousand thanks. And please enjoy your afternoon and please take advantage of this to prepare for the new season of our work and its challenges. Thank you again.

The meeting closed at 1.15 p.m.