
**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee***Unedited transcript*724th Meeting

Tuesday, 12 April 2005, 3 p.m.

Vienna

*Chairman: Mr. S. Marchisio (Italy)**The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.*

The CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon distinguished delegates, I now declare open the 724th meeting of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

This afternoon we will continue our consideration of agenda item 8, Examination of the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets, and agenda item 9, Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects. Time permitting, we will begin consideration of agenda item 10, Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for New Items to be Considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its Forty-Fifth Session.

I then intend to adjourn this meeting of the Subcommittee so that the Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects can hold its second meeting, and the Working Group on the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets can hold its fourth meeting.

Examination of the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment (agenda item 8)

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to continue our consideration of agenda item 8, Examination of the Preliminary Draft Protocol on

Matters Specific to Space Assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment.

Are there any delegations wishing to take the floor on this agenda item?

Shall I wait?

I see no delegation wishing to speak on this agenda item 8 at this afternoon's session.

We will, therefore, continue and hopefully suspend our consideration of agenda item 8, Examination of the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets tomorrow morning, pending discussions in the Working Group on this item.

Practice of States and international organizations in Registering Space Objects (agenda item 9)

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to continue our consideration of agenda item 9, Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects.

I have one speaker on my list and this is the distinguished representative of China. China, you have the floor.

Mr. SU (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): (*Interpreter: there is a slight technical problem, it will be resolved in one moment please. If you could have some patience. Thank you*)

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 D0708, United Nations Office at Vienna, P.O. Box 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria. Corrections will be issued in a consolidated corrigendum.



Mr. Chairman, I would like to start by thanking for the help by the Secretariat and we would also like to thank the Secretariat for presenting this document, given that the information contained therein is very useful when it comes to registration of space objects. We also entirely agree with establishing a Working Group to look into the best approaches to registration amongst countries and international organizations.

We would also like to congratulate Mr. Hedman very warmly on his election to the Chair of the Group and we are convinced that under his helmship, our Working Group will achieve the necessary results.

My Government has always attached particular importance to the matter of registration in December 1998, rather 1988, China acceded to the Convention on Registration. And in order to apply this Convention effectively, my Government published regulations on registration by a Governmental Decree and in keeping with this, all government entities, legal entities, organizations and physical persons involved in launching, or with the opportunity to launch, offered the opportunity to register in keeping with Article 6 of these regulations. We set up a National Register of Space Objects and the National Chinese Space Administration is the depositary thereof, and the contents of the Registry is as follows: the registration number, the entity which requested registration and the owner of the space object, the name thereof, the main features and the launcher, the space vehicle, the date and place of launching, as well as the main orbit parameters of these space objects. This also includes launching and placing in orbit of these objects. The owners are supposed to register these objects in China. If there are several owners, then it is the main owner that is supposed to undertake registration.

If there are foreign countries that have been involved in launching space objects, then it is the International Launching Service that is supposed to carry out registration.

As regards space objects, these include satellites, inhabited space vessels and the Space Station and special such objects and also vehicles and their components and other artificial objects. Space objects which have already been registered, should they change State, if they should undergo a major change of State, change of components or change of orbit or whatever, they are reintroduced or whatever, they must, therefore, be registered again.

Registration regulations require that international registration should take place in this area and it is the Foreign Ministry that carries out the registration with the United Nations Secretary-General in keeping with the relevant article of the regulations. And international registration also includes the name of the launching country, the name of the objects, the new registration number, date and place of launching, the main functions of the space objects and when objects are launched by China and other countries, particular rules are to be followed, that is the rules of the Registration Convention for the registration of such objects.

Mr. Chairman, China has already requested registration of a number of space objects and we will continue our efforts in order to improve the management of registration of space objects and in order to fulfil our international duties in keeping with the Convention on Registration.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of China for his statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to take the floor at this afternoon's session on agenda item 9?

I see none.

We will, therefore, continue our consideration of agenda item 9, Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects, tomorrow morning.

Distinguished delegates, I will shortly adjourn this meeting of the Subcommittee so that the Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects can hold its second meeting, and the Working Group on the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets can hold its fourth meeting.

Before doing so, however, I would like to inform delegates of our schedule of work for tomorrow morning. We will reconvene here tomorrow morning at 10.00 a.m. At that time, we will continue and hopefully suspend our consideration of agenda item 8, Examination of the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets, pending discussions in the Working Group on this agenda item. We will also continue our consideration of agenda item 9, Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects, and begin agenda item 10,

Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for New Items to be Considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its Forty-Fifth Session.

I then intend to adjourn the plenary meeting so that the Working Group on Agenda Item 8 can hold its fifth meeting and the Working Group on Agenda Item 9 can hold its third meeting.

Are there any comments on that proposed schedule?

I see none.

It is so decided.

I now invite Niklas Hedman of Sweden to chair the second meeting of the Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects. This will be followed, as decided by the fourth meeting of the Working Group on the Preliminary Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets, chaired by Professor Vladimir Kopal of the Czech Republic.

This meeting is now adjourned until 10.00 a.m. tomorrow morning. Thank you.

The meeting closed at 3.31 p.m.