

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Legal Subcommittee**

*Unedited transcript*

782<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

Friday, 11 April 2008, 10 a.m.

Vienna

*Chairman: Mr. V. Kopal (Czech Republic)*

*The meeting was called to order at 20 a.m.*

**The CHAIRMAN:** Good morning distinguished delegates, I now declare open the 782<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

I would first like to inform you of our programme of work for this morning. We will continue with the adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposed schedule?

I see none.

*It is so decided.*

**Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

Now we will consider Addendum.2 and 3. Yesterday we adopted the first and second part of the draft report which is contained in document A/AC.105/C.2/L.273 and Addendum.1, including some amendments, of course.

Today I would like to continue this adoption of the third and fourth parts of the report which is contained in Addendum.2 and 3.

We will start with Addendum.2 which contains sections on 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 equitable use of the geostationary orbit, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union. This is one section or one part of Addendum.2. And the second one is on capacity-building in space law.

Do all delegations have the document we will begin considering before them?

Again, this document is A/AC.105/C.2/L.273/Add.2.

We will now proceed with paragraph-by-paragraph adoption of the Addendum.2.

I have an application for the discussion from the distinguished delegation of Nigeria.

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_(?) (Nigeria):** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am sorry but at the risk of putting us back to some parts of the report that we adopted yesterday. I noticed the need for a minor editorial amendment in one of the documents, L.273/Add.1. in Part 4 of that document which relates to information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law. In paragraph 20 where activities of all the international intergovernmental organizations were reported, I would, in addition, like to ask for re-drafting of paragraph(?) 20 so that it will have the same reporting style with subsequent paragraphs 21, 22 and so forth. What I intend to submit for the consideration, Mr. Chairman, is that the activities of IAA in space-related activities, relating to space law, should be a

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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.



little bit elaborated so that we can understand and keep track of what they are doing.

The essence, Mr. Chairman, is to enable us to have a proper institutional memory of what this intergovernmental organization is doing so that we can keep track of their work year in and year out for our records. That is to say, somewhere in line 2, after "indicating the fact that the Subcommittee took note of the report of the IAA ... including", then we can now kind of enumerate exactly the kind of conferences that were held during the year so that we can be able to distinguish it with its other activities in other years. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you very much distinguished representative of Nigeria for your contribution by which you attached our attention to paragraph 20 to complete and elaborate in some greater detail the activities by the International Academy of Astronautics. The Secretariat will prepare the text of such an enlarged wording of this particular paragraph and I will inform the Subcommittee about it at a later stage. Thank you very much and thank you for your patience.

We will now proceed, as I already suggested, with Addendum.2.

Part V. 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 equitable use of the geostationary orbit, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.

Paragraph 1, the first paragraph please.

This is a statement of fact, so paragraph 1 is there any comment on this?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 2, the Subcommittee had before it the following, this is the chapeau and then we have the list of documents that have been prepared by the Secretariat for our consideration, it means subparagraph (a) until sub-paragraph (f).

So (a), OK.

(b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

Are there any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 3.

Any comments?

The opinions of some delegations.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 4.

Again the opinion of some delegations.

Any comments?

None.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 5.

Just one view.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 6.

As a matter of fact this view is also the view of one delegation and it was the delegation of my own country.

Any comments?

None.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 7.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 8.

Yes, just a minute.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 9.

Again the view of one delegation.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 10.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Though I have doubts about the last part of this paragraph. I do not know on any such definition from the scientific and not from the point of view of natural sciences because you limit between Earth space and outer space from the viewpoint of the natural sciences, it is \_\_\_\_\_(?). But, of course, it is the view of the delegation that was brought to the discussion of the Subcommittee and we cannot change it.

*It is adopted.*

Paragraph 11.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 12.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Now paragraph 13.

Our distinguished Secretary asked for the floor on this particular floor. You have the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, indeed, the Secretariat would like to draw the attention of delegations that the current placing of paragraphs 13 and 14 is due to a mistake. Paragraphs 13 and 14, as a practice of the Legal Subcommittee, should be placed at the end of this section and should, therefore, be

incorporated after paragraph 26. These are the two final paragraphs that are usually put at the end of the section and it relates only to paragraphs 13 and 14. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN:** It means both these paragraphs should follow paragraph 26 so that it should be now, for the time being, *26 bis* and *26 ter*?

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Yes.

**The CHAIRMAN:** OK, but perhaps we could consider the substance now and we will have some advance approval of these two paragraphs.

So paragraph 13 which will become paragraph *26 bis*.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 14 which will become paragraph *26 ter*.

It is stated here that the Subcommittee endorsed the report of the Working Group so that we will take it into note that this report has been already approved by the Subcommittee and we will no longer return to it.

So paragraph 14, the present paragraph 14, which will become paragraph *26 ter* is approved.

Paragraph 15.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 16.

Again, the reflection of one view.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 17.

This is the view of some delegations and more or less it is identical with similar paragraphs included in the previous reports of the Legal Subcommittee.

Is there any comment on this paragraph?

None.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 18.

Any comments on paragraph 18?

None.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 19.

Any comments on paragraph 19?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 20.

Yes, again the reflection of the view of one delegation.

Are there any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 21.

The view of one delegation.

Is there any comment?

No comment.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 22.

Yes, this is the note on the information that was provided by one delegation.

Are there any comments on it?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 23.

Again the view of some delegations.

Are there any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 24.

Any comments on this paragraph?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 25.

Yes, again a reflection of views of individual delegations.

Are there any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 26.

Again the view of one delegation.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

After this paragraph 26, the paragraphs 26 *bis* and 26 *ter*, the former paragraphs 13 and 14 would be included as we already decided.

Now paragraph 27.

The usual formula.

I think adopted.

*Adopted.*

Now we will proceed with Part VIII.

Paragraph 28.

This has been the decision of the United Nations General Assembly and it reflects the fact

because we have indeed included this item in our agenda.

Are there any objections against approval of this?

I see none of this paragraph.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 29.

It is the first short chapeau and then sub-paragraphs (a) and (b).

Are there any comments on paragraph 29 including sub-paragraphs (a) and (b)?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 30.

Any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 31.

Any comments because this is the view of the Subcommittee as a whole, the Subcommittee emphasized.

No comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 32.

Again the Subcommittee noted.

Any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 33.

Any comments on paragraph 33?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 34.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 35.

Any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 36.

Any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 37.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 38.

Any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 39.

Any comments on paragraph 39?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 40.

Any comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 41.

The reflection of the opinion of one delegation.

Any comments?

None.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 42.

Any comments?

*Paragraph 42 is adopted.*

Paragraph 43.

Any comments?

This is the view of the Subcommittee as whole, it noted with appreciation the role of the Office and its further activities.

No comments?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 44.

Yes, any comments?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 45 which is composed first of a chapeau and then by a long number of sub-paragraphs. So we will proceed with sub-paragraphs one-by-one.

Sub-paragraph (a).

Sub-paragraph (b).

Sub-paragraph (c).

Sub-paragraph (d).

Sub-paragraph (e).

Sub-paragraph (f).

Sub-paragraph (g).

Sub-paragraph (h).

Sub-paragraph (i).

Sub-paragraph (j).

Sub-paragraph (k).

Sub-paragraph (l).

Yes, the distinguished representative of Nigeria on sub-paragraph (l)? Or on which sub-paragraph?

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_(?) (Nigeria):** Mr. Chairman, I thought you went through all the sub-paragraphs hurried(?).

**The CHAIRMAN:** Yes, I did.

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_(?) (Nigeria):** I just want to make a general comment.

**The CHAIRMAN:** A general comment? Yes, you have the floor Sir.

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_(?):** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to also thank the Secretariat for capturing essentially the thinking or the intention of the Subcommittee regarding this particular agenda item. So far as (a) to (l), in the mind of my delegation, action-oriented activities which are supposed to be undertaking or pull it through(?). But there are some of the sub-paragraphs, action-oriented sub-paragraphs which one finds difficult as to who is going to initiate action in those areas. Some are very clear but some very fluid and then we cannot say in particular who will take responsibility for such actions, for instance, if you look at sub-paragraphs (d), (f), (h) and some others like that. So we are of the view that probably there is a need to re-do(?) the chapeau to reflect whether these activities or these actions who did those actions or are they still in the pipeline or something like that. Thank you Sir.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you distinguished representative of Nigeria for your contribution by which you draw on our attention to the question of who should be responsible for such initiatives or such measures that have been listed here in individual sub-paragraphs. Of course, I should draw your attention that the chapeau does not speak about it and does not put a target of identifying who should be responsible. It is only a list of actions that might strengthen the capacity-building in space law but, in any case, I will give the floor to our Secretary first to explain in some greater detail the formulation of the sub-paragraphs.

**Ms. N. RODRIGUES** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The distinguished delegate of Nigeria is, in fact, correct. We have left the paragraph broad quite purposely because some of the elements, I think, that can only be done by national institutions, things like introducing space law courses into the international course, that clearly. But there are a number of things and I know delegations did propose that a number of these things be some that the Secretariat of the Office for Outer Space Affairs to take care. The only situation is that the Office for Outer Space Affairs itself is not in the position to commit to anything yet because we really have to go back, look at our human resources and possibly the financial situation and identify the things that we can address. I can give you an example, the updating of the publication. That would be something that the Office for Outer Space Affairs would have to do, whether we can do it in a space of a year or a space of two years is something we have to go back and evaluate. But I do not see a great big problem with that apart from the time and human resources factors and a number of things.

This is the only explanation I can give you. If you would like, we could, the Secretariat is intending to look at capacity-building in a much broader context in terms of organization within the Office and we do hope to come back at some point and identify where we can actually contribute to capacity-building and which elements we cannot do without, either additional human resources or financial or expertise because there are some elements where we need the expertise to come from our member States or from institutions.

So this is the reason why the list was left broad. We thought that all the suggestions were quite useful so we decided to include them so that it is on record and I leave it to delegations to give a start on how you would wish to reflect this in the report, if necessary.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you distinguished Deputy Secretary for your answer to this question that has been raised and to this initiative on the part of the distinguished representative of Nigeria.

Would it be satisfactory this explanation for the delegation of Nigeria?

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_** (?) (Nigeria): Thank you Mr. Chairman, for the time being, probably during the intersessional appears(?) there could be some kind of contacts and meetings online whatever that would make delegations to come up ideas as to

how to ensure the implementation of these action-oriented activities, as my delegation, and I believe many developing countries, would like to see concrete action plans concerning what this Subcommittee is going to do concerning this agenda item. Thank you Sir.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you distinguished representative of Nigeria. I also believe in what has been said by our Deputy Secretary that even this listing of the areas in which we may develop a further effort is a certain result because it is an extensive list including many, many different trends and orientations that might be and should be, of course, fulfilled. And since the item, capacity-building, remains on the agenda of the Subcommittee for the next year and maybe even beyond, I do not know, we can, during the next session, elaborate in some greater detail the implementation of these individual sub-paragraphs and change them in specific actions.

Yes, would it be satisfactory for the time being? Yes. Thank you for your cooperation distinguished representative of Nigeria.

So, with this comment, is there any other comment on this particular paragraph?

Yes, the distinguished representative of Ukraine has the floor.

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_** (?) (Ukraine): Thank you Mr. Chairman, good morning colleagues. First of all, I should express my appreciation of the work by the Secretariat on the preparation of this part of the draft report. And then the delegation of Ukraine has a proposal to add to this Part VIII with a new item, taking into account the information which was announced by our delegation within the meetings of the Subcommittee earlier.

Now, and if you permit, I will read this new item.

**The CHAIRMAN:** ... distinguished representative of Ukraine, does it relate to the text of paragraph 45 or is it a new paragraph dealing with another matter?

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_** (?) (Ukraine): No, this new item concerns to the whole of Part VIII.

**The CHAIRMAN:** The whole of Part VIII? So would you be so kind as to wait a little bit because we will have to finish paragraph 45. And then, of

course, I will give you the floor for your proposal. Yes?

Thank you for your cooperation and I have still the distinguished delegation of France on my list of speakers.

**Ms.** \_\_\_\_\_(?) (France) (*interpretation from French*): Yes, thank you Mr. Chairman. Given the statements made on this paragraph 45, particularly the Secretariat's explanation, the French delegation has a question. Would it be possible to add at the end of paragraph 45 that "it was agreed that the Secretariat could identify areas for capacity-building". A neutral wording which would reflect the explanation provided by the Secretariat.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from French*): Thank you very much distinguished representative of France. Could you repeat the text which you propose as an addition to the text of paragraph 45? It would be an addition at the end after sub-paragraph (l) "it was agreed that the Secretariat might identify capacity-building potential in the area". Thank you.

Maybe we should now ask the Secretariat to read the text that they have prepared which would incorporate your suggestion but also some of the other suggestions submitted earlier. So, with your permission, I am going to ask the Deputy Secretary of the Subcommittee to read the text.

**Ms. N. RODRIGUES** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Well, I hope the Secretariat has come up with something that is in the spirit of the proposals we have heard.

Perhaps as a paragraph 45 *bis* we could say "the Subcommittee recommended that member States, the Permanent Observers of the Committee, as well as the Office for Outer Space Affairs, should consider the implementation of the above-mentioned and to inform the Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session on any actions taken or planned."

**The CHAIRMAN**: Distinguished Deputy Secretary, would you repeat it once again and subsequently the last part of this paragraph because it was not quite clear to me what you really expect. So once again at dictation speed, yes.

**Ms. N. RODRIGUES** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): "The Subcommittee recommended that member States, the Permanent

Observers of the Committee, as well as the Office for Outer Space Affairs, should consider the implementation of the above-mentioned list and to inform the Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session on any actions taken or planned" and perhaps I can add "on a national, regional or international level".

Would you like me to repeat once more?

**The CHAIRMAN**: It is up to the delegations. Do you want still this proposal be repeated once more?

I see no such request so let us proceed further.

Does this formulation suggested by our Deputy Secretary satisfy all delegations, particularly those who proposed their own ideas about it?

I see no objection.

*It is so adopted.*

And it will be, in my understanding, a new paragraph. Yes? Following Article (paragraph?) 45.

So first, we should approve paragraph 45 as a whole because we have not done it yet. So paragraph 45, as it says.

Is there any comment on it? And, of course, it was approved provided that a new paragraph would be added as paragraph 46 (paragraph 45 bis?) and the text of which was read by the Deputy Secretary and approved by yourself.

*It is so decided.*

And we still have the last paragraph, it is the present paragraph (l). Sorry, I forgot that agreed to give the floor to the distinguished representative of Ukraine. You have the floor Sir, concerning this part of the report as a whole, yes? This was my understanding.

**Mr.** \_\_\_\_\_(?) (Ukraine): Yes, it is correct. Thank you Mr. Chairman. As I have mentioned before, the delegation of Ukraine asks to include to this Part VIII of the draft report a new item in order to reflect the information which was announced by our delegation before within the meetings of the Subcommittee.

And now, with your permission, I will read the text of this new item.



“The Subcommittee was informed about the planned International Conference on Capacity-Building in Space Law which would be held in Kiev, Ukraine, June 2008 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Ukrainian and Russian Agreement on the foundation of the International Centre for Space Law. The delegation of Ukraine invited all interested delegates to take part in this conference.” Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you. Would you repeat this text at dictation speed?

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_(?) (Ukraine):** Yes, of course. “The Subcommittee was informed about the planned International Conference on Capacity-Building in Space Law which would be held in Kiev, Ukraine, June 2008 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Ukrainian and Russian Agreement on the foundation of the International Centre for Space Law. The delegation of Ukraine invited all interested delegates to take part in this conference.”

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you very much distinguished representative of Ukraine. I have only two minor comments before I give the floor to the delegations.

First of all, where it should be included, where exactly? Yes, I know, this was suggested but is it the proper place for it because it might be included before? I do not know.

The Deputy Secretary just advised me that the Secretariat would check whether it should be included, as you suggested, in this place, it means after paragraph 45 and 46 now or whether it should be included earlier. This would need some reflection and we would lose much time by it but it will be included in this section of the report. Would you agree to such powers of the Secretariat to do so? Yes, I appreciate your cooperation.

And my second remark is you said that this conference which, without doubt, is very important and appropriate, should be held in June 2008, yes, is it so? Yes, but have you taken into account that in June there is the session of the main Committee that it might hinder some delegates which regularly participate in the work of the COPUOS, of the main Committee, to come and participate in the conference that you intend to organize. Do you have any idea which exact dates you have in mind?

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_(?) (Ukraine):** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Of course, we will take into

consideration this information and we will define the date of the conference later.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Perhaps during the second half of the month of June but it is up to you to decide on this question, of course. Thank you very much.

Is there any comments on this proposal made by our distinguished colleague from Ukraine?

I see none.

*It is so decided.*

Including the decision that it would be checked by the Secretariat whether this is the proper place or it should be included earlier in this part of the report.

Ladies and gentlemen, we now have the last paragraph of this part of the report, the present paragraph 46. This is a routine paragraph. I think there is no objection against it and in this way, this part of our report is adopted.

We will now proceed with discussion on Addendum.3. I will repeat that it is document A/AC.105/C.2/L.273/Add.3. And since this part of the report was distributed only in the beginning of this meeting so I will give you perhaps more time in order to check whether all these texts reflect your positions expressed during the session of the Subcommittee.

So draft report, general exchange of information on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

Paragraph 1.

Any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 2 including three sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

So first the chapeau which is short and, I think, without any problems.

And now sub-paragraph (a).

Sub-paragraph (b).

Sub-paragraph (c).

I see none.

Any comments on paragraph 2?

I think we can adopt this because it reflects the text. Therefore, it is useful to include it in this particular paragraph.

No comments.

*Adopted.*

*It is adopted.*

Paragraph 3.

Paragraph 6.

Any comments on paragraph 3?

Are there any comments on this longer paragraph? Are all of the elements mentioned duly reflected in this paragraph?

I see none.

I see no comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 4.

*It is adopted.*

Any comments on paragraph 4, on draft paragraph 4?

Paragraph 7.

No comments.

Any comments on this paragraph?

*Adopted.*

I see no comments.

Paragraph 5.

*Adopted.*

The distinguished representative of the United States.

Paragraph 8.

**Mr. \_\_\_\_\_** (?) (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman and good morning fellow delegates. The United States would suggest adding a sentence at the very end of this paragraph in light of the special presentations that were made by the United States and The Netherlands and we would offer the following sentence for the consideration of fellow delegates. We could say "in addition, The Netherlands and the United States provided special presentations on their national legislation." So again it would say "the proposal in addition The Netherlands and the United States provided special presentations on their national legislation." Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Any comments on this paragraph?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 9.

Any comments on this paragraph?

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 10.

Any comments on paragraph 10?

I see none.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 11.

Any comments on this paragraph?

*Paragraph 11 is adopted.*

Paragraph 12.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you distinguished representative of the United States. You proposed to add a new sentence to the present text of paragraph 5 "in addition The Netherlands and the United States provided special presentations on their national legislation."

Is there any comments on this proposal just made by the distinguished representative of the United States?

No comments.	None.
<i>Adopted.</i>	<i>Adopted.</i>
Paragraph 13.	Paragraph 20.
Just one view in the preceding paragraph 12.	Any comments?
No comments.	I see none.
<i>Adopted.</i>	<i>Adopted.</i>
Paragraph 14. Again the reflection of one view.	Paragraph 21.
Any comments?	First the chapeau and then the list of regular items, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 with sub-paragraphs (a) and (b).
No comments.	Any comments on this part of the agenda that is now proposed for the next session?
<i>Adopted.</i>	I see none. Let us agree on this part. We will then put the question of agreement on the whole but let us proceed part-by-part.
Paragraph 15.	Now, single issues/items for discussion. Paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10, 7, 8, 9, 10, this part dealing with single issues/items for discussion.
No comments?	Are there any comments?
<i>Adopted.</i>	I see none.
Paragraph 16.	<i>It is approved.</i>
Any comments?	Items considered under work plans, 11.
No comments.	As a matter of fact this has been the text that was already approved when we adopted the proposal on the general exchange of information on national legislation. We only added now the programme for 2009 for the next session and during the next session, a working group will be established because this examination will be conducted in a working group and we already elected the Chairman or Chairperson of this working group.
<i>Adopted.</i>	No comments on this part of the proposed agenda for the next session?
Paragraph 17. It is a routine formula so again no problem.	<i>It is adopted.</i>
<i>Adopted.</i>	And new items, 12.
We will now deal with proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session.	It is again a routine text so there is no problem.
Paragraph 18.	
Just a statement of fact. No problems.	
<i>Adopted.</i>	
Paragraph 19.	
Any questions or comments concerning this paragraph?	

So may I take it that the draft agenda for the next session of the Legal Subcommittee has been approved?

*It is so decided.*

Paragraph 22.

It is identical with the formula that was in our last report.

No problems.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 23.

Yes, this is the formula.

No problems.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 24.

The distinguished representative of the United Kingdom has the floor.

**Ms.** \_\_\_\_\_(?) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I read this paragraph, and while it almost expresses what we were trying to say, it is not quite so I would like to make a drafting amendment.

We were actually making this proposal of shortening the sessions not just be at \_\_\_\_\_(?) at the present session. It has basically been over a period of years that we have been observing the work of the Legal Subcommittee. So I would propose in the second line we delete "at the present" and say "the conduct of its work during sessions", so it is plural, and that indicates that it is all sessions not just this present one. And then after "sessions", if you could include "and in view of the ongoing discussions on future roles and responsibilities of UN COPUOS". And I believe that is the title of the ongoing report that is going forward in COPUOS. If I have got the title wrong, do feel free to change it. And that, I think, then better expresses what we were trying to say. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Yes, would you be so kind as to repeat it once again at dictation speed.

**Ms.** \_\_\_\_\_(?) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland): In the second line you would delete the words "at the present" and replace them with "during". Then the word "sessions" would be plural, with an 's' at the end. And after "sessions" you would include "and in view of the ongoing discussions on future roles and responsibilities of UN COPUOS". And as I said, if I have got the title of that report wrong, if we could change that. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you very much distinguished representative of the United Kingdom for your comments and also for your providing us with a text of paragraph 24 as you wish to be amended.

Yes, the Secretary of the Subcommittee has just drawn my attention to the right title of the item and of the document of the Chairman that you requested to be checked and it is "future role and activities of the Committee". Thank you very much.

Are there any other views on the formulation of paragraph 24?

I see none.

I take it that it was adopted by consensus and it is so decided.

Paragraph 25.

Any comments on this particular draft paragraph?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 26.

Any comments?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

As the view, it means the view of one delegation which, however, is not present, yes.

Paragraph 27.

Any comments on paragraph 27?

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 28.

Any comments on draft paragraph 28?

I see none.

*It is adopted.*

Paragraph 29.

The view of some delegations.

No comments.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 30.

Again, it is a longer paragraph consisting of a chapeau and of six sub-paragraphs (a) to (f). So let us proceed slowly.

First, the chapeau.

This is the usual chapeau that was used in our previous reports.

Now sub-paragraph (a).

Greece is not here but I have not heard any comment from it from the distinguished representative of Greece before his departure.

Sub-paragraph (b).

Neither did I hear any comments from the part of the Czech delegation and from the Greek delegation.

Sub-paragraph (c).

Sub-paragraph (d).

Again Greece.

Sub-paragraph (e).

China, Greece, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

Sub-paragraph (f).

Proposed by Chile.

Any comments to the paragraph as a whole?  
It means paragraph 30 including six sub-paragraphs.

No comments.

*It is adopted.*

Paragraph 31.

A routine sentence.

No problems.

*Adopted.*

Ladies and gentlemen, we have just concluded the observation of all these addenda, of the document and all its addenda, but we have two outstanding paragraphs that should be still taken into account because we said we would provide, the Secretariat would provide an exact text of these two particular paragraphs. And I think the first one related to the proposal made by our distinguished colleague from Ecuador and the other one that was requested by our distinguished colleague from Nigeria and because our Secretariat has been thirsty(?) to prepare the text so I will give now the floor to the Secretary or to the Deputy Secretary. Yes, the Secretary.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, the Secretariat will now read out a proposed paragraph by the delegation of Ecuador to be included in the section on general exchange of views and I refer to document L.273, the first document that we considered yesterday, document L.273, general exchange of views, last page, Page 6.

The paragraph would be included as a paragraph 27 *bis* on Page 6 of document L.273 and the proposed text reads as follows.

“The Subcommittee noted that the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas had held consultations with members of the International Group of Experts during the 2008 International Air and Space Fair and had decided to convene a second meeting of the International Group of Experts in conjunction with a Seminar on Space Law for Development and Human Security to be held in Ecuador on 24 and 25 July 2008.”

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you Mr. Secretary for your providing us with the exact text of a new

paragraph 27 *bis* in accordance with the proposal made yesterday by our distinguished colleague from Ecuador.

Is anybody in agreement with this text? Does it satisfy the delegation of Ecuador? I see yes.

Any other comments?

No comments.

*It is adopted. As paragraph 27 bis.*

And the second proposal will be made by the Deputy Secretary.

**Ms. N. RODRIGUES** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The second outstanding paragraph is relating paragraph 20 of L.273/Add.1. It is a proposal that was made this morning by the distinguished delegate of Nigeria to supplement information contained in that paragraph. The Secretariat would like to suggest the following.

So at the end of the existing paragraph 20, we would add the following additional sentences. I will read it first quickly and then more slowly at dictation speed.

“The Subcommittee noted that in 2007 the IAA had organized the First Regional Conference in Africa on the Path to Knowledge and Development, in Abuja, from 3 to 5 December 2007. The Conference allowed the engagement of the IAA’s members and promoted interaction with countries that are not significantly participating in such international meetings. The Subcommittee noted with satisfaction that the IAA had, as a result, decided to annually organize such a conference in Africa.”

I will now repeat it at dictation speed. So following the last sentence of the paragraph 20, we would have the following new sentence.

“The Subcommittee noted that in 2007 the IAA had organized the First Regional Conference in Africa on the Path to Knowledge and Development, in Abuja, from 3 to 5 December 2007. The Conference allowed the engagement of the IAA’s members and promoted interaction with countries that are not significantly participating in such international meetings. The Subcommittee noted with satisfaction that the IAA had, as a result, decided to annually organize such a conference in Africa.”

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you Ms. Deputy Secretary for your reading the text of an addition to paragraph 20, according to the proposal of the distinguished representative of Nigeria.

Is the text satisfactory for the distinguished representative of Nigeria? Thank you for your cooperation.

Any other view on this addition to paragraph 20?

So paragraph 20, including this new last part of paragraph 20, has been adopted.

Thank you very much.

Distinguished delegates, we are approaching the final part of our meeting this morning. We have now adopted all parts of the report of the Legal Subcommittee to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Can I take it that the Subcommittee adopts the entire report, as amended, as completed and amended?

I see no objections.

So the report of the forty-seventh session of the Legal Subcommittee, as amended and completed, is now adopted.

*It is so decided.*

Distinguished delegates, may I now to make the final remarks from the Chair. I will be very brief because I believe that this session has been very effective. We have dealing with all items of our agenda. We have been doing so very efficiently and I also may say briefly and all substantive aspects of the items included in our agenda have been, I think, in fact, thoroughly discussed.

I would like to express my full satisfaction and gratitude to the interpreters in the booth which have effectively helped us in dealing with these issues in a way that I have just described.

I would also like to appreciate perfect work done by the Secretariat of the Subcommittee. Our gratitude to the Office of the United Nations for Outer Space Affairs, led so ably by the Director, Dr. Mazlan Othman, and, of course, particularly those members of the Office which have been engaged in our session here. Again, I would like to mention particularly the Secretary of our Subcommittee and the Deputy

Secretary of our Subcommittee and all other staff members.

I promised to you tentatively yesterday that we would terminate our discussions at 12.00 p.m., at noon today, and we have still now two minutes left. So I believe that it is enough for my declaration on this session, that it is now closed, it means our 782<sup>nd</sup> meeting is closed and also the whole forty-seventh session of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

I thank all delegations for really excellent cooperation that I felt, as you say, in the task of Chairman of this Subcommittee and I am looking forward to most of you, I hope so, during the consideration of the report of the Legal Subcommittee which is, of course, one of the items on the agenda of the main Committee to be held in June and next year, if everything goes well. We will see each other again here at the next session of the Legal Subcommittee.

Thank you very much and the meeting is concluded.

*The meeting closed at 12.00 p.m.*