

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

Unedited transcript

809th Meeting

Thursday, 25 March 2010, 10 a.m.

Vienna

Chairman: Mr. A. Talebzadeh (Islamic Republic of Iran)

The meeting was called to order at 10.13 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Good morning distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I now declare open the 809th 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 of this morning.

We will continue our consideration of agenda item 11, General Exchange of Information on National Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation Measures.

We will begin our consideration of agenda item 7, (a) the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, and (b) the Character and Utilization of the Geostationary Orbit.

We will also begin our consideration of agenda item 10, Capacity-Building in Space Law, and time permitting, agenda item 12, General Information of Exchange on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space.

We will then the preliminary meeting so that the Working Group on Agenda Item 5 can hold its second meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Jean-François Mayence of Belgium.

The Working Group on Agenda Item 7 will hold its first meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. José Monserrat Filho of Brazil.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposed schedule?

I see none.

I would like to remind delegates that the Seminar on the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies organized by the Austrian Permanent Mission to the United Nations Organization in Vienna will be held today from 6.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. in the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, Favoritenstrasse 15a.

General exchange of views (agenda item 4)

Distinguished delegates, I have a request from a delegation to make a statement under agenda item 4, General Exchange of Views. With your permission, I would like to re-open our consideration of agenda item 4 to hear a statement by the delegation of Morocco.

I now invite the distinguished delegate of Morocco.

Mr. S. RIFFI TAMSAMANI (Morocco): Thank you Chairman. My statement will be in Arabic but first of all let me start by apologizing for bringing you back to this agenda item.

(Continued in Arabic): Mr. Chairman, the Kingdom of Morocco positively appraises Tunisia's application for full-fledged membership in COPUOS. The delegation of Morocco, therefore, would like to fully support the candidacy of Tunisia and express the hope that the Committee will favourably consider this

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.



application and make a decision accordingly. Tunisia has always taken an active part in our meetings and our work and its application proves Tunisia's great interest in COPUOS and what it stands for.

Tunisia has demonstrated its commitment to the objectives of this Committee, particularly in the sphere of regional and international cooperation in the domain of the peaceful uses of outer space. This cooperation will promote the further strengthening of African and Arab participation in the activities of COPUOS.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Morocco for your statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

Thank you. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Egypt.

Ms. H.E.E.A. NEGM (Egypt): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Actually Egypt would like to echo the delegates who have supported the nomination of Tunisia and we are adding our voice to those disseminations(?) (sentiments?) as well so thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Egypt for your statement.

I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Colombia.

Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman and good morning. We would like to thank all the distinguished delegates. My delegation is thankful to the Kingdom of Morocco for their expression of support for Tunisia and its entry into this Committee and its Subcommittees.

We would like to also convey to Egypt our welcome and our greetings and we approve and endorse the application of Tunisia.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Colombia for your statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

I see none.

We have, therefore, concluded our consideration of agenda item 4, General Exchange of Views.

General exchange of information on national mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures (agenda item 11)

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to continue our consideration of agenda item 11, General Exchange of Information on National Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation Measures.

The first speaker on my list is the distinguished delegation of Japan. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Japan.

Mr. Y. HORIKAWA (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, I am pleased to address the forty-ninth session of the Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS and offer an overview of the domestic mechanisms in Japan towards space debris mitigation activities.

Mr. Chairman, first, Japan's Basic Space Law clearly provides that space activities should consider space environment preservation. Therefore, Japan's Basic Plan for Space Policy, released in June 2009, which puts the principles of Basic Space Law into practice, highlights the promotion of research and development and thus leads to a better understanding of space debris distribution, the minimization of the regeneration and the active removal of existence large debris form orbit.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, JAXA, which is the main body conducting Japanese space activities, performs space activities in accordance with the Space Debris Mitigation Standard. This Standard is comprised with the United Nations Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines endorsed by the General Assembly in 2007. JAXA has established a Cross-Sectional Committee in order to promote activities that comply with the Standard and is actively working on further efforts for space debris mitigation.

Mr. Chairman, regarding national mechanisms for space debris mitigation, JAXA reviews the design and operation plan of spacecraft and launch vehicles in each of their development phase as part of a Safety Review in order to assure compliance with the Space Debris Mitigation Standard. In the case that other organizations apply Japanese launch vehicles to launch

their spacecraft, JAXA also reviews their compliance as part of the Payroll Safety Review. These Reviews are conducted in and authorized by JAXA. JAXA's Standard requires that all the residual energy sources of spacecraft are discharged by the end of the operation in order to prevent an explosion which is a major factor in the deterioration of the orbital debris environment. As a result, Japan has never caused such an explosion. To preserve (prevent?) the geosynchronous orbit collision, all commercial and JAXA satellites have been removed from the protected regions which are defined by the United Nations Guidelines and ITU Recommendations.

We recognize the importance of some technical and operational improvements to the removal of small satellites from the low-Earth orbital region in order to reduce their orbital lifetime and thus realize the best practices in mitigating space debris to protect the space environment for the long-term sustainable use of space.

In order to avoid a collision among operating satellites and space debris, JAXA analyzes its probability on a daily basis using United States space surveillance data. If the analysis shows a high probability of collision, JAXA would reconfirm the situation with high-precision by cooperating with highly accurate foreign laser observation systems and conduct the collision avoidance manoeuvre if necessary.

Adding to spacecraft collision avoidance, launch time is controlled to avoid collisions between the launch vehicles and orbital manned space systems, such as the International Space Station and Space Shuttle.

Mr. Chairman, JAXA is also conducting research and development work in cooperation with universities. Current subjects under research are observation technology to detect smaller objects, protection technology from collisions with tiny debris, actively move our technology for drifting, unused spacecraft. A study on active removal of a spacecraft is especially important because it is a concern that collisions between space debris and its chain reaction will become a future dominant factor in the increase of space debris.

Japan will continue to make efforts to mitigation space debris. In this regard, further consideration is currently underway in the Japanese Government. The Working Group for Legislation on Space Activities, which was established under the Special Committee on Space Policy, submitted its interim report including suggestions which contribute

to the development of a new legislation on space activities. The report proposes that space debris mitigation efforts should be obligatory for launch operators and satellite operators. We plan to make a technical presentation about the details of the report next week.

We hope that other nations will also take actions to prevent accidents caused by collisions of space debris by implementing the United Nations Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines steadily.

Thank you for your kind attention.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Japan for your statement.

The next speaker is the distinguished representative of Tunisia. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Tunisia.

Mr. T. HRABI (Tunisia) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I apologize, I am not a diplomat, but I am a member of this Legal Subcommittee and in keeping with tradition, I would like to express our profound thanks to all the delegations that have supported our application for membership that was under agenda item 4.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Tunisia for your statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic): Mr. Chairman, we have carefully listened to the statement made by the distinguished representative of Japan. Indeed, the steps that have been taken in this country are very important and we acknowledge them with pleasure because indeed this country is doing something in the direction to apply the Guidelines approved by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Committee and taken into account by the United Nations General Assembly. At the same time, so far, it is only one country that has reported on these steps. However, they are very good and very agreeable for us. But, at the same time, there are other countries. They would be eager to listen to a similar report from the other players in outer space because, so far, the Guidelines, of course, are only one Guidelines

to be performed in practice and I believe that there should be harmony of such measures in all countries that now play a role in outer space. This will enable us to consider whether these steps which are only voluntary, which are not legally binding steps, are really effective and whether they fulfil the aim that was behind these efforts.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic for your statement.

The next speaker on my list is the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation.

Mr. V. Y. TITUSHKIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Thank you very much. Good morning colleagues. We would like to speak briefly on the issue before us on the national mechanisms relating to measures to reducing the generation of space debris.

I would like to draw colleagues' attention to the statement made by the Russian Federation representative who spoke at the session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in February this year. He spoke in detail about the practice at present in our country with relation to measures taken to prevent space debris generation. He, in particular, analyzed the standards of the Russian Federation to prevent the generation of space debris and he gave detailed examples of the way this was aligned as per the requirements of the United Nations with regard to this issue. And we believe that future works at present, for the time being at least, should be focused on the following.

Not all that many countries and States are actually active participants in outer space activity. And most probably to enable us to properly assess to what extent guidelines with regard to the prevention of space debris are really effective, as many countries, as many States, especially those which are actively space-faring, should indeed develop their own national standards on the basis of these Guidelines. As we analyze national standards, and once we have analyzed the practice which has evolved as a result of their implementation, we will be able to indeed come to the appropriate conclusions and take a sound decision as to exactly what sort of regulation should indeed be fostered and should develop in this regard. But this is not something which is just around the corner, most

probably, or the near future, we probably have to see exactly how we would best be able to broach the regulation of these processes. We should see exactly what sort of mechanisms could prove most effective and then see exactly what mechanisms we wish to develop in order to put those things into actual practice.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation for their statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

The distinguished representative of Belgium. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Belgium.

Mr. J.-F. MAYENCE (Belgium) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you very much Chairman. I would like to speak to support what has just been indicated by the Czech Republic representative and the Russian Federation representative as well. We know that the major space-faring nations, as we have already heard from Japan, as well as from other major space-faring nations who have spoken, they have implemented mechanisms for the prevention of generated space debris. And I would like to stress the point which has been made, not by those major nations in space, but rather the smaller nations which indeed do nonetheless have space activity which might indeed nonetheless generate space debris. As France, for example, yesterday said, or was it the day before yesterday, I do not remember exactly, it was quite rightly stated that some satellites could have the same sort of defect as space debris when they are not manoeuvrable, when you cannot really control them. It is a bit like garbage out there in space. So we will not be able, I would contend, to get effective solutions unless we have a minimum of concertation.

There are States that are investing money into programmes which are national programmes which not at all have the same sort of scope or dimension as the major nations. But if they do not get a helping hand, to get a leg up, as it were, to make their efforts effective, then I think that everything that we are going to be doing here in this Legal Subcommittee is not really going to have real impact out there. Why, in practice, for example, what is going to be standing in the way of a small State spinning out into orbit a small non-manoevrable satellite, just like a big space-faring nation is entitled to do. That would not be fair. And as Professor Hertzfeld(?) has said, he reminded us that we

should never underestimate the economic impact of such considerations. We will not never be able to convince smaller countries from indulging in such activities or making such investments just like other bigger nations do out in space unless they have some sort of incentive to not engage from such activities, to refrain, in other words. We can always say, well, there is goodwill that should be fostered and promoted but fostering and promoting is not going to be enough. It is going to be necessary to give practical incentives, reasons, justification in economic terms for countries to refrain from certain activities.

And this is what I am saying as a follow-up to the comments made by the Czech Republic as well as the Russian Federation.

Thank you very much for your attention.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Belgium for your statement.

The next speaker is the distinguished representative of Colombia. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Colombia.

Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Chairman. I would like to thank the representative of Japan who referred to the efforts made by his country with regard to registration and control of space debris, and we would also like to pay tribute to the comments made by Dr. Kopal who has indicated that he believes that it is necessary to move, to develop the legal elements underpinning this. And as our friend, Jean-François has also said, there are discrepancies, diversities of standpoint from countries around the world which are different in their development scientifically but also legally as well.

Our delegation feels that this can only be reflected in international cooperation. It is very difficult to know to pre-determine ahead of time that this or that country is bound to generate more or less space debris. In five to 10 years time, for example, when we refer to space-faring nations, we are thinking in terms of a 30-40 year span of history, a chunk of history. So it is very difficult to get an appropriate criteria on the basis of which to assess things. It depends on the time frame as Dr. Mayence has contended. What we are trying to seek is to promote the generation of space debris within the cooperative framework.

In Latin America, we feel, and here I am referring to Colombia's standpoint here, what are we

thinking about here, we are thinking in terms of the transfer of technologies which could abate these risks to a certain extent. It is very difficult for someone to send a satellite out into outer space from his backyard so I think that we have to think in terms of registration and observance of standards, of norms. Here, I am talking about the legal aspect of compliance *per se*. The constraining standards and norms, right now there is a Register which is a voluntary-based Register. There is a German effort which was started up last year which was tabled before the Committee on the registration of objects of space debris, but precious few, such pieces of space debris have indeed been registered. Could the Secretary possibly give us a run-down, a birds eye view of exactly sort of status this whole issue has at present? What is the extent of the work already done on this Register to date?

I believe that all of this work, I would like to say, has to be done under the auspices of international cooperation to avoid the sort of generation that could spin off and engender conflict amongst States some time down the road. I do think that this is a theme that we should discuss within a Working Group, directed by Jean-François possibly, on liability. I think that we should about addressing comments to the words "compliance" and "observance", that issue.

Thank you.

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

Are there any other delegations who would like to make a statement under this agenda item?

The distinguished representative of France. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of France.

Mr. M. HUCTEAU (France) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Chairman. Good morning to one and all. One technical point I would like to make. The fact that one launches a small satellite, I do not believe that it is necessary to have propulsion for that. A propulsion device is very pricey for satellite. And, as I said yesterday, it is enough to launch it with a lower perigee. Quite simply. And without propulsion, it will not be subject to effective control in orbit and then it will be able to loiter in outer space way over its intended time of operation. Usually such objects are supposed to have a lifetime of some three years or something but if they are too far up in orbit, they are going to be loitering out there in orbit. They can be dangling out there for a long time. So these little satellites, without propulsion, since they do not have

propulsion, their initial orbit has to have a lower perigee and that will allow for atmospheric re-entry and cleansing that is natural, as it were, and would observe rules, at present, for example, we talk in IADC of 25-year rules and that figure of 25 years has not actually been integrated into the 2007 resolution at United Nations level. Possibly that is something we could usefully return to. This is something which could possibly be incorporated into the future very usefully.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of France for your statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

I see none.

We will, therefore, continue our consideration of agenda item 11, General Exchange of Information on National Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation Measure, in the afternoon.

Matters relating to (a) the definition and delimitation of outer space, and (b) the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit (agenda item 7)

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to begin our consideration of agenda item 7, Matters Relating to (a) the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, and (b) the Character and Utilization of the Geostationary Orbit.

I would like to remind delegates that this item will also be considered by the Working Group on Item 7.

Delegations are reminded that the following documents are before you for consideration: National Legislation and Practice Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space contained in Addenda 6 and 7, to document A/AC.105/865; Questions on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space: Replies from Member States, contained in Addenda 5 and 6, to document A/AC.105/889; Replies of the Netherlands and Tunisia to Questions on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space and the Information on its National Legislation on Practice Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, contained in Conference Room Paper 10 and Conference Room Paper 13; and Reply of the ICAO Secretariat of the Current and Foreseeable Aviation Operations With

Particular Emphasis on the Upper Limit of those Operations, contained in Conference Room Paper 9.

We do not have any speakers on this agenda item.

Is there any distinguished delegate wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

The distinguished representative of Colombia. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Colombia.

Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much. On item 7, I can speak legitimately under item 7? Thank you very much.

The delegation of Colombia would like to take the floor under item 7 and state that the aspects relating to issues having to do with the definition and delimitation of outer space are primordial in importance for the proper operation of space activities. We must indeed stress the value of the mandate that the United Nations has attached to COPUOS so that within the framework of this Subcommittee and within the Working Group as well on these two issues, definition and delimitation, we have to validly address this issue and that the new legal aspects and issues which emerge as space is used increasingly and more intensely come forward and indeed we must certainly most carefully consider this entire nexus of issues. Our approach must be based on cooperation and cooperation with ICAO. Indeed, the definition and delimitation of outer space could prove necessary in order to determine the scope of application of aeronautical and outer space law and laws. In other words, what are the lines of jurisdiction which arise? And I believe that this would serve to encourage member States to adhere to the United Nations treaties, to treaties with respect to outer space in general.

The definition and delimitation of outer space might create uncertainties with regard to the sovereignty rights of States in outer space but would encourage and promote the effective implementation of principles and the non-appropriation of outer space as well.

Definition and delimitation are also linked to the definition of what constitutes a space object. What is a space object after all?

And finally, definition and delimitation of outer space must be linked to the proper use made of outer space resources, frequencies, control of the

intentional destruction of satellites, for example. I believe that this is a matter which calls for our most urgent attention. This is something that must be addressed within our Subcommittee and Colombia would like to thank the Secretariat which has indeed put a very last edition of the brochure having to do with the treaties of the United Nations and Principles on Outer Space on page 66 of the Spanish version, matters which have been very extensively debated and Colombia, over the past years. Indubitably, this will prove to be a theme which will be the subject of extensive, lengthy negotiations but depending on what circumstances avail and requiring this certainly.

Dear colleagues, dear friends, the Colombian delegation here would like to make an appeal and draw attention to an initiative which was taken yesterday by the European Union with regard to the effectiveness and the efficiency of the Secretariat and its work, which would, of course, reflect the effectiveness and efficiency of the work of the Subcommittees of COPUOS as well, as well as of COPUOS itself. This would reflect a more proactive attitude. The legal team which has a lot on its shoulders is doing excellent work. All the friends and colleagues, Antonella, Silvia, Niklas, all of them are working most devotedly, they are doing their utmost indeed. I know that the legal team of the Office for Outer Space Affairs is a very small one, however. They do not have all that much of a budget either but they are proposing legal texts on the basis of data, of experience which is drawn from other texts. And I think that this would go along the lines of the European Union proposed initiative with regards to the work that I am just referring to right now within this Subcommittee.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Colombia for your statement.

Are there any other delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

I see none.

We will, therefore, continue our consideration of agenda item 7, Matters Relating to (a) the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, and (b) the Character and Utilization of the Geostationary Orbit, in the afternoon.

Capacity-building in space law (agenda item 10)

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to begin our consideration of agenda item 10, Capacity-Building in Space Law.

Delegations are reminded that the following documents are before you for your consideration: Implementation of Recommendations to Build Capacity in Space Law, A/AC.105/954; the United Nations/Islamic Republic of Iran Workshop on Space Law "Role of International Space Law in the Development and Strengthening of International and Regional Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space, that was held in Tehran on 8-11 November 2009; the Second United Nations Expert Meeting on Promotion Education in Space Law, held in conjunction with the Space Law Workshop on 12-13 November 2009; Education Opportunities in Space Law, a Directory contained in Conference Room Paper 4; and Building Capacity in Space Law: Action and Initiatives, contained in Conference Room Paper 8.

For this agenda, we do not have any speakers on the list.

Are there any delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

I see none.

We will, therefore, continue our consideration of agenda item 10, Capacity-Building in Space Law, in the afternoon.

General exchange of information on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space (agenda item 12)

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to begin our consideration of agenda item 12, General Exchange of Information on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space.

I would like to remind delegates that this item will also be considered by the Working Group on Item 12.

Delegations are reminded that the following documents are before you for your consideration: Information Provided by Member States on National Legislation, contained in document A/AC.105/957 and Conference Room Paper 11 and Conference Room Paper 14; and a Thematic Overview of National Space Legislation, contained in Conference Paper 12.

There are no speakers on my list.

Are there any delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

The distinguished representative of Belgium. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Belgium.

Mr. J.-F. MAYENCE (Belgium) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you very much Chairman. Sorry, I wanted to actually make a procedural point, if I might. I think it is a bit of pity that we, in the Journal, do not have information on the items that are really going to be handled in the course of session because, as you can imagine, it is very difficult to make comments that are valid off the cuff on something that is not mentioned in the Journal. So it is a pity not to have this opportunity. Maybe other delegations are ready to contribute validly to this point but my delegation actually would prefer a little bit more advance notice, if that would prove possible, so as to rev up and re-shape up our comments on these items as long as we have the capability of being present in these sessions.

I just wanted to make that comment in passing on a procedural point. I think that this is one of the points that have been opened up without any advance notice having been given in the Journal. So if I could appeal to the Secretariat to possibly put in absolutely all of the most updated information into the Journal that could possibly prove useful for delegations.

Thank you very much for your attention.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished representative of Belgium.

Are there any delegations wishing to make a statement under this agenda item?

I see none.

We will, therefore, continue our consideration on agenda item 12, General Exchange of Information on National Legislation Relating to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space, in the afternoon.

Distinguished delegates, I will shortly adjourn this meeting so that the Working Group on Agenda Item 5 can hold its second meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Jean-François Mayence of Belgium, and the Working Group on Agenda Item 7 can hold its first meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. José Monserrat Filho of Brazil.

Before doing so, I would like to remind delegates of our schedule of work for this afternoon.

We will meet promptly at 3.00 p.m. At that time, we will continue our consideration of agenda item 7, Matters Relation to (a) the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, and (b) the Character and Utilization of the Geostationary Orbit. We will also continue our consideration of agenda item 10, Capacity-Building in Space Law, and agenda item 11, General Exchange of Information on National Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation Measures.

We will also continue our consideration of agenda item 12, General Exchange of Information on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space.

At the end of the afternoon's meeting, we will have the third meeting of the Working Group on Agenda Item 5, and the second meeting of the Working Group of Agenda Item 7.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposed schedule?

I see none.

I now invite Mr. Jean-François Mayence of Belgium to chair the second meeting of the Working Group on Agenda Item 5.

This meeting is adjourned until 3.00 p.m. today.

Thank you very much for your attention.

The meeting adjourned at 11.04 a.m.