

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

Unedited transcript

810th Meeting

Thursday, 25 March 2010, 3 p.m.

Vienna

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

The meeting was called to order at 3.12 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I now declare open the 810th meeting of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

I would like first to inform you of our programme of work for this afternoon.

We will 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. 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. Time permitting, we 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.

We will then adjourn the plenary meeting so that the Working Group on Agenda Item 7 can hold its second meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. José Monserrat Filho of Brazil.

And time permitting, the Working Group on Agenda Item 5 can hold its third meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Jean-François Mayence of Belgium.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposed schedule?

I see none.

I would like to inform delegates that an informal planning meeting for exhibitors on the exhibitions celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of COPUOS and the fiftieth anniversary of human space flight will be convened by the Secretariat, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, tomorrow, Friday 26 March, at 2.00 p.m., in Room NOE19, 'N' Building.

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

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to 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.

With agenda item 7 (a), the first speaker on my list is the distinguished delegate of the United States. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the United States.

Mr. S. McDONALD (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman for affording me this chance to present the United States' views on

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.



matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and to 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.

I would like to begin by commenting on the first part of this agenda item concerning matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space.

As we have stated on previous occasions, the United States is of the view that there is no need to seek a legal definition or delimitation for outer space. The current framework has presented no practical difficulties and indeed activities in outer space are flourishing.

Given this situation, an attempt to define or delimit outer space would be an unnecessary theoretical exercise that could potentially complicate existing activities and that might not be able to anticipate continuing technological developments.

The current framework has served us well and we should continue to operate under the current framework until there is a demonstrated need and a practical basis for developing a definition or delimitation. This Subcommittee can operate most effectively and make its most significant contributions when it focuses its attention on practical problems which are not apparent here.

With respect to the geostationary orbit, or GSO, I would like to state my Government's continuing commitment to equitable access to the GSO by all States, including satisfaction of the requirements of developing countries for GSO use and satellite telecommunications generally.

From the legal point of view, it is clear that the GSO is part of outer space and its use is governed by the 1967 Outer Space Treaty as well as the International Telecommunication Union's treaties. As set forth in Article 1 of the Outer Space Treaty, "outer space shall be free for exploration and use by all States without discrimination of any kind on a basis of equality and in accordance with international law".

Article 2 of this Treaty further provides that outer space is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means, of use or occupation or by any other means.

These articles make it clear that a party to the Outer Space Treaty cannot appropriate a position in outer space, such as an orbital location in the GSO, either by claim of sovereignty or by means of use or even repeated use of such an orbital position.

As I previously stated, the United States is committed to equitable access to the geostationary orbit and takes numerous actions to further the use of the geostationary orbit and other uniquely situated orbits as part of the province of all mankind, including free provision of its Global Positioning System, or GPS, free provision of a variety of weather and warning data from its meteorological satellites, information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Polar Meteorological Satellites, data from the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites, including information about hurricanes, volcanic eruptions and effluent flooding, droughts and related environmental matters in storm tracking data and in cooperation with Russia, France and Canada, the international satellite-aided Search and Rescue Programme, known as COSPAS-SARSAT, to provide means for ships, aircraft and others in distress to signal their need for help and their locations.

We appreciate your consideration of our views on this agenda item.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of the United States for their statement.

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

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

Mr. V. Y. TITUSHKIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This delegation has a few comments to make regarding the issue of the definition and delimitation of outer space.

Lately we have witnessed an increasing number of States in their national legislation being compelled one way or another to provide a definition of outer space. To cite examples, one only has to look at the various information documents provided by States including questionnaires on the issue of the definition and delimitation of outer space. Thus, a certain practice has emerged whereby various States define outer space in their own national legislation and, of course, they do it in different ways. This paves the way to the possibility of conflicts in the future,

situations where one State would interpret its activities as happening in outer space, whereas another State will view these same activities as occurring not in outer space but in air space.

The same applies to the issue of the delimitation of outer space and air space. Imagine a situation wherein one State sets the border of its air space at the altitude of 100 kilometres and this has already happened, we have heard examples of that, and a neighbouring State were to establish the border of its air space at an altitude of 120 kilometres. We are aware of the fundamental differences that exist in the air space legal regimes of States. What we will get as a result is a conflict of interests and a serious legal conflict.

Now, imagine an object moving through the air space of one State, let us say, at an altitude of 120 kilometres. For the neighbouring State, this is an object moving through outer space and, of course, the rights and obligations of States with regard to these different kinds of space are different. Equally, the legal regimes that govern these different kinds of space are different. How does one solve that type of conflict? As far as outer space is concerned, there is the right for unobstructed fly-through, whereas in air space, such a right does not exist. So, once again, we are building the foundation for potential conflicts.

In this context, we believe that this Subcommittee should continue its efforts in a constructive spirit, taking into account the existing practice of States, bearing in mind the technological breakthroughs, to consider issues pertaining to the definition of outer space and its delimitation. Such new technologies do exist, there is no doubt about that. Suffice it to say that, just the other day, we saw information all over the World Wide Web about a new method for launching space objects wherein a space vehicle would be taken to a high-level air space by aircraft and then following that, launched as a space object. This type of situation gives rise to a host of issues, both legal and political and this Committee should not shirk its responsibility by not considering these issues.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you distinguished colleagues.

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

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

The distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Mr. Chairman, with regard to the definition and delimitation of outer space, my delegation believes that there has to be a follow-up to the responses to questionnaires submitted to States. There is no pre-determined or pre-judged response. It would be appropriate to work out a definition and a way to delimit outer space.

It has been calculated, for example, that the geostationary orbit should fall within outer space and what this would mean is that no State is allowed to appropriate any object placed in that orbit or any slot in that orbit. That being said, what we are witnessing in this day and age, particularly following the rapid commercialization of space activities, is the emergency of corporations which claim to own orbits and frequencies as part of the geostationary orbit, and that state of affairs will surely complicate the situation for smaller countries, for developing countries when it comes to launching missions or satellites to meet the legitimate needs of these States.

There is a problem. Therefore, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to state that it is necessary and important for us to work out the definition and delimitation of outer space and to provide guarantees to all States the right to send their own satellites and vehicles to the geostationary orbit while facilitating these activities for developing countries.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank you distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for his 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 (a), the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, and (b) the Character and Utilization of the Geostationary Orbit, tomorrow morning.

Capacity-building in space law (agenda item 10)

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

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

Mr. H. WASSERMANN (Germany): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, Germany underscores the necessity of capacity-building in space law through a wide range of activities. The Institute of Air and Space Law at Cologne University is the oldest of its kind and holds an extensive collection of documents with regard to space law. The collection "Space Law", basic legal documents, provide a free exchange of data and information between the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Cologne Institute.

In addition, the growing number of German university institutes, such as the University of Lüneburg, offers specific lectures on space law

In order to follow the technical evolution in space applications, specialized symposia, conferences and space-related meetings for practitioners are organized. For example, the Symposium on Small Satellites for Earth Observation in Berlin, in May 2009, or the Symposium on Legal Aspects of Geo-Information, in January 2010, in Oberpfaffenhofen.

For German and foreign academics, the German Academic Exchange Service, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation offer special scholarships in order to encourage and promote academic exchange.

At the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Outer Space Treaty in 2007, the Cologne Commentary on Space Law Project was initiated by the Cologne Institute of Air and Space Law, and the German Aerospace Centre, DLR. The Cologne Commentary will be a three-volume annotation on the norms of space law, as contained in the treaties of the United Nations and the resolutions of the General Assembly. Volume 1, which provides a provision-by-provision interpretation of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, was published at the end of 2009 and is accessible at the occasion of the Legal Subcommittee.

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

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

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

Mr. L. KULAGA (Poland): Mr. Chairman, thank you for the possibility to contribute to this important exchange of information regarding capacity-building in space law. We would like to inform that air and space law modules are incorporated in general international courses which are obligatory for students of law and international relations in all universities in Poland.

Furthermore, special courses on space law are organized by Warsaw University on the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Journalism and Political Science. At Warsaw University, the courses hosted(?) by a member of the International Law Commission, Professor _____(?) Galinski(?).

By the initiative of Professor Galinski(?) in September 2009, Warsaw University hosted a Conference "Exploration of Outer Space: _____(?) Europe _____(?)" which dealt with legal and policy issues.

In June 2010, Warsaw University will be hosting a conference on the life and work of the Polish professor and long-serving judge of the International Court of Justice, Manfred Lachs, author of many works related to the law of outer space. The Conference will include a panel regarding space law.

We would like to also inform that Polish universities continue to participate in the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. Last year, in the competition took part in the Jean-Paul II Catholic University of Lublin and the University of Silesia.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present measures of the Republic of Poland regarding capacity-building in space law.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Poland for his 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 Republic of Korea.

Mr. J. LEE (Republic of Korea): Thank you Mr. Chairman. My delegation is of the view that active exchange of information and experience between countries, together with their mutual assistance and cooperation, will not only help enhance the capacity-building in space law but also contribute to the more

effective implementation of intention of space law as a whole.

As my delegation mentioned at the outset, the Republic of Korea will be offering educational programmes that include a space law session for experts(?) of Algeria, Kazakhstan and the Republic of Seychelles this year.

The Republic of Korea endeavours to share its space experiences with developing countries.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Mr. W. PARK (Republic of Korea): Before concluding, I would like to add one simple thing, that is to express our appreciation, I think that every delegation will appreciate, the generous gesture of the Cologne Institute of Air and Space Law to have just to distribute the voucher to get the first volume of the Commentary on Space Law. Thank you to the Institute of Cologne very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representatives of the Republic of Korea for your statements and, of course, the distinguished representative of Germany of the University of Cologne.

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

Mr. Y. HORIKAWA (Japan): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, on behalf of the Japanese Government, I am pleased to address the forty-ninth session of the Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS.

I would like to report on Japan's efforts to enhance capacity-building in space law.

Mr. Chairman, Japan continues to attach great importance to providing education and training opportunities in the area of space law and facilitating the exchange of education materials and information related to it as a means of enhancing capacity-building in space law.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, JAXA, continues to support the annual Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition, organized by the International Institute of Space, IISL. Reflecting a high level of interest in the Asia-Pacific region, 26 out of 43 university teams that participated in this event last year were from this region. Since 2001, JAXA has

covered the travel expenses of the winning team at the Asia-Pacific Regional Round to participate in the World Finals held during the International Astronautical Congress. This financial support, provided by JAXA, was well recognized by the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum, APRSAF, in its Space Education and Awareness Working Group, which met this January in Bangkok, Thailand.

JAXA also supported the representative of the Space Law Japan's Students Conference by covering their travel expenses to participate in the last ISC. This support enabled them to take part in the Space Law Moot Court Competition and the Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space, organized by IISL.

Japan is determined, through the JAXA-led activities, to continue to support these students, in cooperation with IISL, to ensure that they gain practical experience in the application of space law, interact with students from other countries and meet the leading space law experts from around the world. We believe that this will lead to the creation of a conducive environment for students studying space law in which they may broaden their knowledge and perspectives and thus contribute to the progressive development of international space law in the future.

In its Legal Affairs Division, JAXA receives students of law including those from other countries as interns to assist in its work and conduct research relating to international domestic space law. Last year, the Division welcomed French students to conduct research and draw comparisons on the French and Japanese space law systems. The Division also continues to update the database on the international space treaties and domestic space laws, both in the original language and in Japanese, where appropriate.

Mr. Chairman, through the APRSAF Space Education and Awareness Working Group, Japan is strengthening its efforts to expand opportunities for education and training as well as to exchange educational materials, both of which encompass the area of space law.

At its last meeting, the Working Group agreed that its members should keep each other informed of any upcoming internship and scholarship opportunities that are made available for under-graduate and graduate students in Asia and the Pacific.

As for space education materials, the Working Group agreed to jointly produce and keep updating a list of selected measure educational materials developed by organizations that are represented by

member States is in the local language or other languages.

In this regard, we commend the excellent work done by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in revising “Educational Opportunities in Space Law: A Directory” last year. We hope that this valuable source of information on academic programmes in space law around the world will also be distributed widely in Asia and the Pacific through the APRSAF Space Education and Awareness Working Group.

We also hope that consideration could be given to compiling a list of internship opportunities in space law that are available around the world. We believe that such internship opportunities made available to students from other countries will contribute not only to expanding training opportunities for future space lawyers, but also the deepening of a mutual understanding among countries that are engaged in space activities.

We also believe that these activities will encourage more countries to ratify international space treaties which will promote the peaceful use of outer space.

Thank you for your attention.

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

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

Mr. J. MONSERRAT FILHO (Brazil) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to briefly comment on the great accomplishments we have been able to achieve in Brazil in the area of space law.

We have a number of universities in the country but there is one university in particular that is one of the best education centres in the country, that is the University of São Paulo and at that University, there is a Law Department that has a long-standing tradition of excellence. And it is in that Law Faculty that, for the first time, last January, we held a Workshop on Space Law. This was a major breakthrough and it will be followed this year by a repeated Workshop and for us, this is a very powerful demonstration, a way to show all other educational institutions, higher education centres in Brazil, that space law is now on the agenda, it is a priority, it is an important part of international law in general.

This was a brief item of information I wanted to make because we believe it is very important for the history of legal scholarship in Brazil

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Brazil 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 10, Capacity-Building in Space Law, tomorrow morning.

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 delegate of India. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of India.

Mr. V. GOPALAKRISHNAN (India): Thank you Mr. Chairman. India attaches the utmost importance to the issue of space debris as it poses obvious dangers to all space assets and thereby to their applications as well for peaceful purposes.

The Indian delegation appreciates very much the efforts of the Space Debris Working Group of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee in formulating the Space Debris Mitigation Measures which led to the adoption of the United Nations Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines through United Nations General Assembly resolution in 2007.

The Indian Space Research Organization has been implemented appropriate mechanisms in the design and operational phases of all the launch vehicles and satellite missions in order to mitigate the possible creation of space debris. The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle which uses Earth storable propellants has been designed with a propellant venting system. And the Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle, GSLV, has been a two-passivation system in its cryogenic capacity to sow(?) at the end of its useful mission life. Thus, the possibilities of on-orbit fragmentations are very much minimized.

The geostationary satellites, which are designed with a _____(?) of fuel, are promptly re-orbited at the end of their initial mission life.

Mr. Chairman, ISRO has developed meta-_____ (?) models and algorithms to predict the close approach of debris to orbiting functional satellites.

For the launch of PSLV-C12 and PSLV-C14 missions during 2009, collision avoidance analyses were carried out to identify the safe lift out times within the designated launch windows.

Of the injection of spacecraft, passivation of near-Earth stages of these missions were successfully executed and monitored.

ISRO has been carrying out space object proximity awareness and analysis for all its operational low-Earth of its spacecraft for the last one year on a daily basis to assess the collision risk to its space assets as well as to determine appropriate risk mitigation strategies in advance.

Mr. Chairman, it is evident that orderly conduct of space exploration activities in the future will largely depend on ordinance of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines by all. We want all member States to follow the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in _____ (?) spirit. Assured safety and security of space assets in the interest of all and are of paramount importance for faster prospering together.

Against this backdrop, it gives us immense pleasure, Mr. Chairman, to inform this august body that India has hosted the twenty-eighth meeting of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee, during 9-12 March 2010, in Thiruvananthapuram, India.

During the very successful four-day technical meeting, 86 specialists participated, of which 73 were from abroad covering various international space agencies.

Current technical issues and updates related to space debris measurement, environment and databases, space court(?) protection and space debris mitigation were discussed in detail. Long-term evaluation of space debris and its relation to the long-term sustainability of space activities, they received considerable attention during these intense discussions.

India believes that through such international cooperation, facilitating the exchange of information

on space debris research and through global implementation of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines, the sustainable space environment could be promoted for generations of future mankind, to enjoy the fruits of space research.

Thank you Mr. Chairman for your kind attention.

Mr. Chairman, one more request. These Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines can be appended to this Treaty Book and distributed(?). Thank you very much.

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

And according to my list, the next speaker is the distinguished representative of the United States. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the United States.

Mr. S. McDONALD (United States of America): Thank your Mr. Chairman. We are pleased that this Subcommittee is exchanging information regarding national mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures. The adoption of the United Nations COPUOS Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines was a key step in providing helpful guidance to space-faring nations on this increasingly important issue. And much like on our ongoing exchanges in this Subcommittee on national legislation, we think that this agenda item will help the members understand the different approaches that countries have taken regarding this subject.

There is another significant United States effort focused on space debris mitigation. The United States Strategic Command and its joint Space Operations Centre had an effort providing for the exchange of space situational awareness data, information and services between the United States and other governments as well as commercial entities. We encourage fellow space-faring nations to participate in this effort to help to protect our space environment, promote global, safe and responsible use of space, support mission operations and improve space situational awareness. We found last year's presentations to be quite informative and interesting and we are looking forward to continued discussions on this issue.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

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

I see none.

We will, therefore, continue and hopefully conclude our consideration of agenda item 11, General Exchange of Information on National Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation Measures, tomorrow morning.

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

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

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

Mr. H. WASSERMANN (Germany): Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, considering the increasing number of non-governmental activities in the exploration and use of outer space, commercial as well as scientific small satellite missions, Germany has decided to prepare national space legislation. The German Space Law will focus on implementing the United Nations space treaties. Accordingly, it would cover, for example, the obligation to obtain the permit for non-governmental activities in the exploration and use of outer space, the registration of space objects, liability and insurance issues.

Details of the German Space Law are currently elaborated. Germany plans to finalize its space legislation during the present election period, that means until summer 2013 at the latest. This general Space Law will be the overall legal framework for the already existing special regulations for certain space applications such as the National Implementing Rules for ITU Frequencies.

With regard to the Satellite Data Security Act, you will remember the presentation which took place last Tuesday.

A German/English as well as a German/Russian synopsis of the Satellite Data Security Act has been made available on the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs website.

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of Germany 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 12, General Exchange of Information on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space, tomorrow morning.

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

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

We will meet promptly at 10.00 a.m. At that time, we will 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.

We will also continue our consideration of agenda item 10, Capacity-Building in Space Law. We will continue and hopefully conclude our consideration of agenda item 11, General Exchange of Information on National Mechanisms Relating to Space Debris Mitigation Measures. Time permitting, 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 plenary, there will be two technical presentations by the representative of the United States on the "Regulatory Role of the Federal Aviation Administration", and by the representative of France on "Law Decrees and Technical Regulations on Space Activities of France".

We will then adjourn the meeting so that the Working Group on Agenda Item 7 can hold its third meeting.

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 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. at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, Favoritenstrasse 15a.

I will invite Mr. José Monserrat Filho of Brazil to chair the second meeting of the Working Group on Agenda Item 7.

This meeting is adjourned until 10.00 a.m. tomorrow.

Thank you very much for your attention.

The meeting closed at 4.03 p.m.