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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACIFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE Twenty-second session

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE ON THE WORK OF ITS TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

Addendum

14A. At the 200th meeting, on the first anniversary of the space flight of the Polish cosmonaut Miroslaw Hermaszewski and his Soviet colleague Piotr Klimuk the representative of Poland presented to the Committee's Chairman a collection of medallions, the exact replicas of the ones that went to outer space, commemorating Poland's venture in outer space. The medallions had been cast on behalf of the seven Polish institutions involved in the preparation of scientific programme of the flight: the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Committee of Outer Space, the Centre for Outer Space Research, the Institute of Physics of Polish Academy of Sciences, the Air Force Institute of Medicine, the Institute of Aviation and the Institute of Landsurveying and Cartography.

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28A. The Committee endorsed the recommendation of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee that the Remote Sensing Centre in Cairo, one of the five institutions recommended by ECA as regional training and user assistance centres serving Africa as well as the four other African international remote sensing centres receive from the United Nations the technical assistance and co-operation which could be made available for such a purpose.

28B. The Committee noted with appreciation the offer made by Argentina to make its Celpa centre in Mar del Plata available as a regional centre for research and training in remote sensing.

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63A. The Committee in this connexion drew attention to paragraphs of its report and noted the observations made at its current session that the assistance of the specialized agencies, as well as their related bodies, such as the CCIR and the CCITT of the ITU, could be very useful in the preparation for the Conference.

D. Future work of the Sub-Committees

- 64. The Committee noted the views expressed by the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee as contained in paragraph 77 of the Sub-Committee's report and endorsed the recommendations contained in paragraph 78 concerning the agenda of the seventeenth session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee. In this connexion, the suggestion was made by some delegations that the item relating to geostationary orbits should be amended in the agenda to read as follows: "The examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary satellites' orbital space".
- 65. The Committee also endorsed the recommendations of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee that the Working Group on Nuclear Power Sources should meet during the seventeenth session of the Sub-Committee in order to continue its consideration of questions related to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space.
- 66. The Committee recommended that the Legal Sub-Committee should continue its work on items relating to: (a) Legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space, with the aim of formulating draft principles; (b) Elaboration of draft principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting, and ..., as recommended in paragraphs 29, 33 ..., as well as on the item on matters relating to the definition and/or delimitation of outer space and outer space activities, bearing in mind, inter alia, questions relating to the geostationary orbit. In this connexion, the suggestion was made by some delegations that the title of the agenda should be amended to read as follows: "Matters relating to the delimitation of air space and outer space and to the legal status of the geostationary satellites' orbital space". The Committee further recommended that the Legal Sub-Committee should continue to include on its agenda an item entitled "Other matters".
- 67. The Committee noted the proposal made by some delegations to have the meetings of the Sub-Committees held simultaneously. A working paper (A/AC.105/L.114) presented in this connexion is reproduced as Annex II.

Some delegations felt that this matter deserves further study.

The Committee agreed that the first step could be that the Sub-Committees should examine the need to continue to have a general exchange of views at the beginning of their sessions.

E. Other matters

68. The Committee shared the satisfaction expressed by the Sub-Committee in paragraph 75 of its report on the work carried out at the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre in India and the CELPA Mar del Plata Rocket Launching Station in Argentina relative to the use of sounding rocket facilities for international co-operation and training in the peaceful scientific exploration of outer space. The Committee, accordingly, recommended that the General Assembly continue to grant sponsorship to these two ranges.

- 69. The Committee noted with appreciation the reports submitted by Member States on their national and co-operative space programmes during the calendar year 1978 (A/AC.105/237 and Add.1-3).
- 70. The Committee also noted with appreciation the participation in its work and that of its Sub-Committees by representatives of United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations, and found the reports they had submitted helpful in enabling the Committee and its subsidiary bodies to fulfil their role as a "focal point" for international co-operation, especially with respect to the practical application of space science and technology in developing countries.

F. Schedule of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Committee agreed on the following time-table for 1980:

Time

Location

Working Group on Nuclear Power Sources

Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee

Legal Sub-Committee

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space