

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Unedited transcript

626th Meeting
Friday, 18 June 2010, 10 a.m.
Vienna

Chairman: Mr. Dumitru Dorin PRUNARIU (Romania)

The meeting was called to order at 10.23 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN Good morning, distinguished delegates. I now declare open the 626th meeting of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

This morning we will continue and conclude agenda item 16, other matters and will begin our consideration of agenda item 17, report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

We now open the floor to decide on the pending issues of the application for observer status of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World. As we have seen yesterday there was no consensus on that issue and the Committee took note of the application of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World, the related correspondence was before the Committee in A/AC.105/2010/CRP.5. The Committee took note that there were some procedural matters connected with the request of this Association to become an observer member of COPUOS.

The Chair proposed and asked the Committee to analyse and agree to invite the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World to participate at the fifty-fourth session as well as in the sessions of the subcommittees in 2011 with a view to providing additional information and that a decision on the application of that Association would be made by the Committee at that session in 2011.

Is it agreeable for you?

The Secretariat will send official letters to the Association to invite it to the subcommittees and to the Committee to have a special presentation and to bring additional information about them.

The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has the floor.

Mr. M. GASHUT (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (*interpretation from Arabic*) Good morning. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the delegations which expressed their opinions yesterday on the admission of that Association in this august committee whether you agree as it is the case with most delegations which referred to the soundness of the measures taken by the Association being an governmental organization funded by the Arab governments. Some refused because information arrived late and was not delivered by the Secretariat and the information provided was not sufficient. Here I would like to say the following.

If we go back, we should find that the information was sent directly to OOSA on 3 May 2010, through mail and well as electronic mail. However, we did not receive any response either through express mail or email which made us consider that this Association, an intergovernmental organization, would be acceptable.

This Association is concerned with Arabic speaking countries. Any country however which does not speak Arabic can join the Association through specialized agencies or even individuals. COPUOS has many centres speaking English, French as well as other languages of the United Nations associated to it. We sent you an application for an Arabic speaking centre and I do not know why you did not accept the only centre that is speaking Arabic.

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.



This Association, as I said, was formed by virtue of a resolution on the regional level taken by the ministers of education and sciences. It has accounts in banks where it has affiliates and it is supported by Arab agencies working in the field of academy and scientific research. Every year we provide scientific and financial reports for adoption. All the staff are derived from the Arab centres and remote sensing centres. We would have expected that it would be a subject of appreciation by all the States because at the same time you spoke very well of a non-governmental organization and without discussion gave approval to the admission of that non-governmental organization. We thought as an intergovernmental association that we would be dealt with in the same manner and we believe that the principles of the United Nations and the use of the services of the United Nations should be the exclusive privilege of one party and not the other.

In our statement, at the international level, we call on the space-faring nations to provide assistance to the developing countries and we do not expect that you would (____?) our process of making progress in space. The idea is not an application or admission to this or that Committee but the idea is to make use and make benefit of that because that is very important for us because we believe that we live in a world that is good for all and that is possessed by everyone.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for his statement. I want to be precise.

The Committee did not have any formulation against the admission of this Association, some members of the Committee expressed the view that they did not have enough and timely information to take a decision regarding the admission of this Association as an observer member of COPUOS. Each country has an internal procedure and we cannot control the internal procedures of countries, that is the reason that we invite this Association to make presentations during the subcommittees in the next Committee to provide additional information to all member States and to have the possibility to take the decision during the next session of the Committee.

Mr. M. RAIS (Sudan) (*interpretation from Arabic*) May the peace of God be upon all of you. We do appreciate the proposal by the distinguished Chairman to give the Association an opportunity to get acquainted with the member States and to get the member States acquainted with the Association. We know that each and every country has its own internal rules and regulations, we do respect that very much. I would like to make clear that this Association is the

only place for the Arab States to exchange information and to avoid risks and catastrophes and this is the only point where we can exchange information at a reasonable cost. At the same time, this will make the information in Arab States available to other States which might be hit by catastrophes, such as Somalia, Yemen, etc. All these countries make use of the services of this Association. This Association is to achieve the goals that we have in this Committee which is to make outer space available for all the developing countries.

This Association, as my Libyan colleague said, is the only body that represents the Arabic speaking countries members of this Committee. Of course the Arab States and the Arab League is a regional group in itself. With these words I wanted to add to what was said by my colleagues by way of making this Association acquainted to you.

On behalf of the Arab group which is not a legal entity here but it is a legal entity in our region I would like to say that we will provide additional information to whoever needs information. If you have any questions or information we will give you our address and contact points and we will make presentations in next year's meetings. We hope that the States will appreciate and understand the needs of other States and other groups and we hope that this will engender no sensitivity at all.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Sudan for his comment.

Are there any other comments or suggestions? I see none.

Should I take it decided that we agree with the formulation proposed by the Chair that the Committee invites the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World to participate at the fifty-fourth session as well as in the sessions of the subcommittees in 2011 with a view to providing additional information and that a decision on the application of the Association would be made by the Committee at that session. It would be included in the report, if you agree.

Mr. M. RAIS (Sudan) To those who have asked for additional information. If the information provided by the other countries after their request, is it enough and they accept then we ask for the acceptance of it. If it is not enough and they want extra information then we have your proposal which is quite generous and we agree with it.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Sudan.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) It is very helpful to have written information. We have got a lot of oral information but it is OK if we get written information.

The CHAIRMAN Any other comments?

It is so decided.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) Before we go to another subject, I would like to go back to a decision we took yesterday afternoon when we were discussing CRP.6 and the conditions that we would impose on an organization applying for the permanent observer status within the Committee. We decided yesterday afternoon that we would require those organizations having been granted permanent observer status within our Committee to apply to ECOSOC to get ECOSOC status within three years after our decision. Just before we took that decision yesterday afternoon we had granted permanent observer status to the International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety (IAASS) when we were discussing CRP.4.

My question is, the decision we took after granting permanent observer status to IAASS, will this apply to this Association we have just granted permanent observer status to?

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland for her intervention.

You will find in the report today and in Add.3, that the Committee agreed that granting of observer status to non-governmental organizations in the future will be on a provisional basis for a period of three years pending information of the status of their application for consultative status with ECOSOC. You will find information in Add.3 of the report.

I give the floor to IAASS.

Mr. J. PELTON (IAASS) First of all, very briefly, I did want to express the appreciation of our organization for the granting of permanent observer status and to thank the staff of OOSA in that regard and further to assure that I contacted the President of our Association and that we will be forthwith proceeding with regard to the ECOSOC Council and ITU to seek consultative positions. We also hope in the years ahead to assist with regard to the sustainability of space initiatives where we feel we can contribute a

great deal to that effort. We have no fear that we would not, within three years, be able to achieve this goal.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of IAASS.

Any other matters, delegations wish to raise before we conduct..?

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) What is being proposed by the delegation of Switzerland is not just only for the future it is even for the ones who are in. From CRP.6 there are a lot of associations and organizations who do not (____?). We have to make sure that this is not only for the future because if this is just going to be for the future you are going to eliminate a lot of other NGOs (____?) to be represented in this area. We had a comment yesterday from the Czech Republic, we have to eliminate this (____?) in 1990. In my view, most of these organizations are benefiting from the use of space for peaceful uses. Therefore, I will back the proposal made by Professor Kopal that we have to revise our regulation of 1990 because in 1990 there were other groups in the world, there were two big divisions and now we have globalization, everything is open to everybody, so we have to revise the 1990 procedure of admitting NGOs and other organizations in COPUOS.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Distinguished representative of Venezuela has the floor and then the representative of the Czech Republic.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) My comment will be very brief because I have carefully listened to the statement made by Saudi Arabia just now. We have to leave everything perfectly clear. What we are not trying to do is to bar access for NGOs, that should be clear. We are all aware of the significance of listening to civil society as part of space activities overall. The only thing that we are trying to do is proceed in an orderly fashion and that these NGOs do their part of the work and that they be regulated and controlled as decided within the United Nations because NGOs that are outstanding are quite a few and some would be shielded under the auspices of the UN in order to promote their own agendas and particular interest, that also should be clear. We do not want to restrict freedom, we think participation should come about only along the lines of authorized regulations. What you say has really attracted my attention because it is relative standards that are required, it is not just entry it is also their contribution and attendance because of course we would not want the rules not to be complied with. We

need to completely revamp the functioning of COPUOS because thus far we have not had an effective system to govern this.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. Distinguished representative of the Czech Republic has the floor.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for his kind support of the suggestion that we made yesterday, namely that the requirement of the approval of the ECOSOC and its Committee on Non-governmental Organizations is not, in our opinion, useful. Indeed, when we will be about to review the rules on the admission of observers from among non-governmental organizations to this Committee we should take this suggestion into serious account. Our Committee is interested in the cooperation of non-governmental organizations dealing with space matters and our Committee should have the full power to decide such applications on the basis of full information that should be provided by the applicant.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Mr. Chairman, it has really surprised me, maybe even shocked me, the way we are dealing with the requirement for the permanent observer status for NGOs. If my understanding is correct that yesterday, during the afternoon session, we made a decision by consensus on that. It surprised me that this morning we re-open the issue and want to change those decisions which have been adopted in the last session. We have to deal with it according to the rules and procedures of COPUOS, it was a decision made by COPUOS in consensus that there is a requirement as, Mr. Chairman, you have set out.

Although I share the concerns voiced by the Swiss delegation whether the decision should have respected a fact to those permanent observers which are already granted by COPUOS. That is the issue (____?) today, we can make a decision on that. There will be no reason or excuse to change the decision that we have made in the last session. I do share the concerns voiced by the Venezuelan delegation although some delegations have different understandings or different perspectives to look at the rules but that is a decision we have to stand for, not easily changed after one night.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. I want to bring a clarification.

In Add.3 of the report, this afternoon, you will find reflected the decision we have already taken and agreed yesterday. There were some comments today, some delegations wished to express their views but this decision, how to proceed in the future, was taken yesterday.

Any other matters, delegations wish to raise before we conclude this item?

Ms. A. PASTORELLI (Italy) Following the discussions we had on organizational matters yesterday and the decision taken concerning the creation of the working group which is deemed to work during the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee, Italy would like to positively respond to the appeal by the Bureau and the Secretariat and other member States in the corridor to chair this working group, of course with the consensus of everybody.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Italy for this information. You should meet informally and decide, inside the formal group, the way of organizing the meetings and the way of proposing the decisions.

Are there any other matters delegations wish to raise before we conclude this item? I see none.

Distinguished delegates now we start with the adoption of the report.

The report is contained in the following documents, A/AC.105/L.279, L.279/Add.1/Add.2/Add.3. Delegates should have received the first three parts of the draft report in your pigeon holes. We shall now begin with a paragraph by paragraph adoption of the document A/AC.105/L.279.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) I recommend that we proceed with a provisional adoption of the report, paragraph by paragraph, until the entire document has gone through once and then we make a final decision on whether the document can be accepted at all.

The CHAIRMAN Paragraph 1 from Chapter 1, Introduction. Are there any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2, meetings of subsidiary bodies. Are there any comments on paragraph 2? I see none.

Paragraph 2 is adopted.

Paragraph 3. Are there any comments on paragraph 3? I see none.

Paragraph 3 is adopted.

B. Adoption of the agenda. Paragraph 4. Are there any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 4 is adopted.

C. Election of officers. Paragraph 5. Are there any comments on paragraph 5? I see none.

Paragraph 5 is adopted.

Paragraph 6. Are there any comments on paragraph 6? I see none.

Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Membership, paragraph 7. Are there any comments on paragraph 7? I see none.

Paragraph 7 is adopted.

E. Attendance, paragraph 8. Are there any comments on paragraph 8? I see none.

Paragraph 8 is adopted.

Paragraph 9. Are there any comments on paragraph 9? I see none.

Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Paragraph 10. Are there any comments on paragraph 10? I see none.

Paragraph 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11. Are there any comments on paragraph 11? I see none.

Paragraph 11 is adopted.

Paragraph 12. Are there any comments on paragraph 12? I see none.

Paragraph 12 is adopted.

Paragraph 13. Are there any comments on paragraph 13? I see none.

Paragraph 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. Are there any comments on paragraph 14? The Secretariat will include the right information where the dots are, list of representatives of States Members of the Committee, etc. Are there any comments on paragraph 14? No, with the inclusion of the Secretariat of the number of the organizations taking part. I see none.

Paragraph 14 is adopted.

With regard to paragraph 15, the Secretariat has clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) In paragraph 15 delegations will see reflected that statements were made by certain member States on behalf of regional groups and regional entities of member States. In yesterday's discussion, the Secretariat wants to be certain how to apply this in the report and it is a package.

The Secretariat understands it to be as follows, that there was an agreement yesterday that in this paragraph, general statements, there will be reflected that the representative of a certain member State made a statement on behalf of a certain group. This means that for these regional groups that are listed in this paragraph, there will not be the qualification of States Members of the United Nations it will only be, made a statement on behalf of the respective groups.

In the report that we are adopting today there are support paragraphs under each of the items on the agenda of the Committee reflecting which delegation made a statement. There is also there a language reflecting that other member States made a statement on that particular item but in the general exchange of views. When we come to these paragraphs we know that we will include that a statement was also made by a certain member State on behalf of a regional group as we decided yesterday. Then we have certain paragraphs in the report where we have a square bracket on whether it was the view expressed or some delegations because we need certainty on this issue and under those items it will be some delegations in the substantive paragraph but it has to be clear that in the paragraph stating who spoke under that item it should be then included that it was a statement on behalf of a regional group as appropriate. This is the understanding of the Secretariat but we want to be sure of this.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification.

Are there any comments on the clarification made by the Secretariat?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Could we just be careful as we go through paragraph by paragraph that the Secretariat identify these that could establish precedent so that we get it right as we go through.

My first question on paragraph 15, if I am to understand you correctly, that under the general exchange of views, for example the representative of Zimbabwe made a statement on behalf of the Group of African States. Is that how it is supposed to read?

The CHAIRMAN That is right, distinguished representative of Canada, that was our understanding.

Distinguished delegates, in paragraph 15, line 9, the representative of Algeria made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the group.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) On that line, the understanding of the Secretariat is that it would be reflected as follows. The representative of Algeria made a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The representative of Zimbabwe made a statement on behalf of the Group of African States. The representative of Costa Rica made a statement on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. The representative of Spain made a statement on behalf of the European Union. The representative of Egypt made a statement on behalf of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries.

The CHAIRMAN Is this clear? Is this acceptable? If yes, we adopt paragraph 15 with the clarifications made by the Secretariat.

Paragraph 15 is adopted.

Paragraph 16. Are there any comments on paragraph 16? I see none.

Paragraph 16 is adopted.

Paragraph 17. Are there any comments on paragraph 17? I see none.

Paragraph 17 is adopted.

Paragraph 18. Are there any comments on paragraph 18? I see none.

Paragraph 18 is adopted.

Paragraph 19. Are there any comments on paragraph 19? I see none.

Paragraph 19 is adopted.

Paragraph 20. Are there any comments on paragraph 20? I see none.

Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21. Japan has the floor.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan) This paragraph is not correct so I would like to suggest a new sentence as follows, I read from the second line: space mission to be done from the near-Earth asteroid Itokawa, it was noted that the mission marked the first time that a round trip between Earth and an asteroid has been accomplished. It is hoped that the Hayabusa capsule contains a sample from the surface of the asteroid.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Japan. If it is possible to get this in written form to the Secretariat to avoid further mistakes.

Do any delegations have comments on the proposed text by Japan? If there are no objections we will change paragraph 21 as it was proposed by Japan.

With changes made by Japan, paragraph 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. Are there any comments on paragraph 22? The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) On the whole not objections but the Russian text should be corrected. It was a zapusk? and not a zakusk?, zakusk? is a snack and not much of a launch, it is a lunch rather. It is puzzling to put it that way.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation for his clarification. For sure the Secretariat will change the Russian version.

With the clarification in the Russian version of paragraph 22, is it acceptable for delegates?

Paragraph 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23. Are there any comments on paragraph 23? I see none.

Paragraph 23 is adopted.

Paragraph 24. Are there any comments on paragraph 24. I see none.

Paragraph 24 is adopted.

Paragraph 25. In paragraph 25 (c) it should be recent developments, with 's' at the end, it is a small editorial problem, it will be corrected by the Secretariat.

Are there any comments on paragraph 25 with the correction, recent developments in the field of space etc? I see none.

Paragraph 25 is adopted.

Paragraph 26. Are there any comments on paragraph 26? I see none.

Paragraph 26 is adopted.

We will come back to paragraph 27 because we already had considered some problems and paragraph 27 will be adopted at the end.

Chapter II. Recommendations and decisions: ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes. Paragraph 28. Are there any comments on paragraph 28? I see none.

Paragraph 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. I will give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Paragraph 29, there is an addition related to what we discussed earlier under paragraph 15 of the report. The end of paragraph 29 it would be added as follows, 'During the general exchange of views, statements were also made on the item by representatives of other member States and by Costa Rica on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and by Spain on behalf of the European Union'.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any comments to the proposed addition to paragraph 29 made by the Secretariat? Are there any comments on paragraph 29? I see none.

Paragraph 29 with the proposed text made by the Secretariat is adopted.

Paragraph 30. Are there any comments on paragraph 30? I see none.

Paragraph 30 is adopted.

Paragraph 31. Are there any comments on paragraph 31? I see none.

Paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Are there any comments on paragraph 32? I see none.

Paragraph 32 is adopted.

Paragraph 33. Ecuador has the floor.

Mr. J. ROSENBERG (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*) This is merely a slight amendment to the text. The pro temporary secretariat of the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas is exercised by Ecuador, not established. The English text reads 'established by'. That is an amendment that I would suggest to English and Spanish where, in both cases, we have established. It would be appropriate to correct that please, 'exercised by the Government of Ecuador'.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Ecuador. Paragraph 33 will read, 'The Committee noted with appreciation that representatives of Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico, as well as of the pro temporary secretariat of the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas, exercised by the Government of Ecuador' and so on.

Mexico has the floor and then the second Vice-Chairman.

Mr. S. CAMACHO LARA (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I am looking at the English language text, delete the word 'remaining' in the sentence that starts with the fourth line of the text from the bottom. 'The Committee also noted the meetings had resulted in detailed plans for the remaining preparations' and the reason why we would like to delete 'remaining' from the text is that we still have a preparatory conference to look forward to and in the preparatory conference there are a number of topics under consideration, that is therefore a subtle distinction.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Mexico.

Mr. J. ROSENBERG (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I think you said 'exercised' but I would prefer 'held in English' (____?) in Spanish but I will leave it to the Secretariat I am sure they will find the most appropriate terminology in English.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Ecuador.

The Second VICE-CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from Spanish*) Merely with the intention of helping the chairperson in terms of the adoption of the report and establishing as many clarifications as possible. I would like say first that what the distinguished representative of Mexico said is truly in keeping with the factual situation, we should be adding 33bis connected to the fact that in Chile there will be a conference, being organized at this point in time by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chilean Space Agency, as was particularly mentioned in the context of the presentation on the subject with a preparatory conference leading up to the Sixth Space Conference of the Americas which was clearly established in the resolution of the General Assembly that pertains to this and it was clearly stated, at least by the Chilean delegation and a number of other delegations as well, and discussed in the context of a GRULAC meeting as part of this conference so we cannot really ignore that fact.

In respect of the very sound suggestion made by the representative of Ecuador, I am certainly not in the right position to call that into question. I must say that this is a huge achievement in Latin America so that Ecuador was able to have all the legal and political elements required to do, what I and I believe the whole of the continent believes, excellent work. With your permission, I am obviously not in a position to enter into a debate but I think that this was very appropriately exercised but from the Prepcom, I would like to say that Chile clearly stated that this should possibly go into a separate paragraph as it cannot be ignored.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished Second Vice-Chairman for your proposal.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Just a drafting suggestion. I think the second line should go like 'Ecuador and Mexico as well as Ecuador in its capacity as pro temporary secretariat'. (____?) we can draw attention to NP.2, non-paper 2, in the 2005 report we have the same wording, that is Colombia in its capacity as pro temporary secretariat for the Fourth Space Conference of the Americas, then we just lend the wording from

the old report, as well as Ecuador in its capacity as pro temporary secretariat of the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. Are there any other comments?

Mr. J. ROSENBERG (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*) The only thing I want to have perfectly clear is that the pro temporary secretariat is held by Ecuador. I do not know whether I fully understood the proposal made by my distinguished colleague of China. I do, of course, go along with Mr. Raimundo González, I respect his views very much. Ecuador is exercising the pro temporary secretariat subsequently it will be Mexico. I do not want this to cause more delay that necessary, so it was not established, it is merely being held by Ecuador and subsequently it will be Mexico, so I want to have that perfectly clear.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Ecuador.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat wants to have this clear. The Secretariat understands the process as follows, the Troika comprises three countries, Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico. Then the pro tempore secretariat is exercised by the Government of Ecuador but if we put the representatives of Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico as well as Ecuador in its capacity, Ecuador comes in two different capacities. The way that it will be changed here is 'established' will be replaced by 'exercised' that is the way that the Secretariat understands this but of course please give the Secretariat guidance, 'remaining' will be deleted in the third last line. Now, at the end of this paragraph it could be added that 'the Committee further noted with appreciation that a preparatory conference for the Sixth Space Conference of the Americas will be hosted by the Government of Chile in July 2010'.

The CHAIRMAN Is this acceptable, distinguished delegates, the text proposed by the Secretariat?

Mr. J. ACUÑA (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes, I think this is perfectly acceptable, thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you Chile. Is the text proposed by the Secretariat acceptable for all delegations, at the end of paragraph 33 and to delete 'remaining' in paragraph 33, the third line from bottom and replace 'establish' by 'exercise'.

If I see no objections with these modifications, paragraph 33 is adopted.

Paragraph 34. Are there any comments on paragraph 34? I see none.

Paragraph 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. Are there any comments on paragraph 35? I see none.

Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Paragraph 36. Are there any comments on paragraph 36? I see none.

Paragraph 36 is adopted.

Paragraph 37. Are there any comments on paragraph 37? I see none.

Paragraph 37 is adopted.

Paragraph 38. Spain has the floor.

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) *(interpretation from Spanish)* In connection with this paragraph and to better reflect reality, we suggest that we change 'approved' in the second line and instead of that have 'supported' and, at the end, in such a manner as to read 'The Committee noted the project of the European Union to adopt a code of conduct for outer space activities. The draft text which had been supported by the Council of the European Union in December 2008' and then we should include 'as a basis for consultation with third countries', and here we would prefer to have the present tense because the code of conduct is a draft at this point in time and continues to include these measures. Perhaps to have it shortened it would be appropriate to place a full stop after 'as a basis for consultation with countries' and then continue 'conduct includes' etc. etc.

Mr. Chairman, you may want me to repeat in the interest of clarity.

The CHAIRMAN Yes, distinguished representative of Spain repeat all your proposals for modification of the paragraph.

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) *(interpretation from Spanish)* Very well. We would merely be changing 'approved' bringing in 'supported' instead and the sentence would then continue up until 'the Council of the European Union in December

2008' where we then include 'consultation with third parties'. After which we would have a full stop and we would say 'the draft code of conduct includes' and the remainder as a result of that we should also have 'reflects' and not 'reflected'.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Spain. As I understand, the beginning of the paragraph 38 will read: 'The Committee noted the project of the European Union to adopt a code of conduct for outer space activities. The draft text which had been supported by the Council of the European Union in December 2008 as a basis for consultations with third parties. The draft code of conduct includes transparency and confidence-building measures and reflects a comprehensive approach to safety and security in outer space and so on ...

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) *(interpretation from Spanish)* Yes Sir, but 'which' is redundant and could be deleted. Furthermore, we wanted to include one word to be in compliance with the text as it appears now and it is in connection with the third of the principles where we would have to refer to security. So the principles would read: 'freedom of access to space for all for peaceful purposes, preservation of the security and integrity of space objects in orbit and due consideration for the legitimate security and defence interests of States'. We would need to insert the reference to security and defence but, at this point in time as I was saying, it is a draft code of conduct.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Spain. The Secretariat has noted all your proposals for modification. In the beginning the second sentence is 'a draft text had been supported by the Council of the European Union in December 2008 as a basis for consultations with third parties'. Then 'The draft code of conduct includes transparency and confidence-building measures and reflects a comprehensive approach' and so on and then the following principles will be 'freedom of access to space for all for peaceful purposes, preservation of the security and integrity of space objects in orbit and due consideration for the legitimate security and defence interests of States' and the rest stays as it is.

Are there any comments on the proposed modifications made by Spain? I see none.

Paragraph 38 with the modifications proposed by Spain is adopted.

Paragraph 39. Will begin with 'Some delegations reiterated'. Are there any comments on

paragraph 39 starting with ‘Some delegations reiterated their commitment to the peaceful use’ and so on? I see none.

Paragraph 39 is adopted.

Paragraph 40. Are there any comments on paragraph 40? I see none.

Paragraph 40 is adopted.

Paragraph 41. Are there any comments on paragraph 41? I see none.

Paragraph 41 is adopted.

Paragraph 42. Are there any comments on paragraph 42? I see none.

Paragraph 42 is adopted.

Paragraph 43. Are there any comments on paragraph 43?

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) I would like to clarify one element, I may be wrong but you see this paragraph contains many aspects mentioned by the Russian Federation but this sentence where ‘one delegation stated that the present outer space regime is not sufficient to prevent weaponization in space’. Who stated this? This is merely in the interests of precision. The delegation that conveyed that view was in favour of a legal instrument so that space may continue to be used for peaceful purposes without prejudice of the existing legal framework. Paragraph 43, the latter part thereof. We were in favour of a convention not just a legal document, a global convention. So if it is our statement that reference is being made to, we did not say without prejudice to the existing legal framework but if it is someone else’s statement then it can remain in the text but if it is solely concerning our statement, we spoke on a convention and we had a very specific target in mind.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Russia.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) We would like to inform the distinguished representative of Russia that Venezuela conveyed the view of generating or formulating binding standards to cover outer space related topics.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. Distinguished representative of China.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Very briefly, China also holds the same view on this paragraph so we can be flexible about the wording whether we use legal instruments or (____?) but my suggestion that we change ‘the view was expressed’ into ‘some delegations were of the view’ because this covers many delegations’ view on this very important item.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished delegate of China.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) On this paragraph, yes, we think that the paragraph needs to be improved in both parts to say that some delegations expressed the view. Canada also supports the idea of further legal instruments for outer space.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. I give the floor to the Secretariat to read the proposal included in the paragraph.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Paragraph 43 would then begin as follows: ‘Some delegations were of the view that the existing legal regime’ and so forth. The second sentence would begin as follows: ‘Those delegations also expressed their support for a comprehensive legal instrument’ and so forth.

The CHAIRMAN Is this acceptable for the delegations that proposed changes in the paragraph?

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes, we agree but it is simply not clear in Spanish, it should be a comprehensive legal instrument it should be (____?) in Spanish, ‘comprehensive’ but we do not have a problem it will be quite difficult to understand but let us continue and let us adopt the item as it is.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. Are there any other comments on the proposed modified text of paragraph 43? I see none.

The English version was read by the Secretariat and the consequent modifications in other languages will be made.

If there are no objections, the text as it was proposed by the Secretariat of paragraph 43 is adopted.

Paragraph 44. Are there any comments on paragraph 44?

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think there are some delegations not just only one who have suggested, I can even speak on behalf of the Arab countries who are members in this, so I think it should be some delegations not just only one.

The CHAIRMAN A proposal made by Saudi Arabia for paragraph 44 is to replace 'the view was expressed that provisions' and so on by 'some delegations expressed the view that' and so on.

Are there any comments?

Paragraph 44, with the modification proposed by Saudi Arabia, is adopted.

Paragraph 45. Are there any delegations that wish to make comments? I see no comments.

Paragraph 45 is adopted.

Paragraph 46. Are there any comments on paragraph 46? I see none.

Paragraph 46 is adopted.

Paragraph 47. Are there any comments on paragraph 47?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Paragraph 47 reflects what we did in fact say in this Committee session however we said it in the context of a different section of the agenda. We believe that this paragraph should be moved to document Add.1, section 10, approximately page 12 and we suggest that it become somewhere around 92bis and we can take it up at that time.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. As the distinguished representative of Canada proposed, we remove paragraph 47 from A/AC.105/L.279 and move it to Add.1 of this document after paragraph 92 it will be 92bis.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) We have no problem with that. Not to be moved but copied onto the other document because this is what Venezuela said during the statement. What we

have reflected here is what we said. If the delegate goes along with us it could merely be copied and also put elsewhere but not to remove it from here because if we are consistent, the paragraph is repetitive because in the previous paragraph there is a reference to interaction between the general system i.e. the Conference on Disarmament and the First Committee of the General Assembly but you should be aware of the fact that this is part of our statement and should properly be reflected in this part of the text.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. The distinguished representative of Venezuela proposed to leave paragraph 47 where it is and copy it into Add.1 of the document after paragraph 92 as it was proposed by Canada. Are there any comments on this proposal?

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Following the last couple of interventions it is my understanding, and I could be wrong, that the views that were expressed by the delegation of Venezuela, in fact contained in paragraph 46 which we have adopted, would remain in this section and that the paragraph that has been suggested to be moved is paragraph 47 which, with my understanding, reflects exclusively the view of the delegation of Canada so perhaps we are talking about two different paragraphs here.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the United States for the clarification. Are there any other comments? There are no comments. So as it was initially proposed by Canada, paragraph 47 will be moved after paragraph 93 of Add.1 to the document. So it will be removed from the main document and put after paragraph 92 in Add.1. I see no comments.

The paragraph taken from L.279, paragraph 47 (____?) after paragraph 92, as 92bis is approved.

Paragraph 48. Are there any comments on paragraph 48? I see none.

Paragraph 48 is adopted.

Paragraph 49. Are there any comments on paragraph 49? I see none.

Paragraph 49 is adopted.

Paragraph 50. Are there any comments on paragraph 50? I see none.

Paragraph 50 is adopted.

Paragraph 51. Iran has the floor.

Mr. N. SHIRAZI (Iran) Firstly, my delegation appreciates the Secretariat preparing the draft report. On this specific paragraph, the content of this paragraph reflects the view expressed by my delegation and to be more factual my delegation prefers that 'activities in outer space in particular those related to satellite products should be carried out in a manner compatible with the sovereign rights of States'. I would like to propose to insert some additional words in the first line, after the comma, 'the view was expressed that activities in outer space' and here I propose to insert 'among them those related to satellite products' then the rest of the paragraph remains as it is.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Iran. According to the proposal made by Iran, paragraph 51, we read 'the view was expressed that activities in outer space among them those related to satellite products which were making a substantial contribution to the well-being' and so on. Are there any comments on the proposed modification of the paragraph by Iran. I see none.

The paragraph with the modifications proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran is adopted.

Paragraph 52. Are there any comments on paragraph 52? I see none.

Paragraph 52 is adopted.

B. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Paragraph 53. Are there any comments on paragraph 53? I see none.

Paragraph 53 is adopted.

Paragraph 54. Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Just a clarification. We spoke to the matter about the health matters with respect to agenda item 8. We are OK with you listing us as speaking at this point but we want a clarification. Does the Secretariat mind a duplication of where we spoke? We did speak to agenda item 8 on this issue but you have us speaking as to UNISPACE III.

The CHAIRMAN So, distinguished representative of Canada. Canada is always included in the list of member States who have statements within the report of the Scientific and Technical

Subcommittee. You propose to delete Canada from paragraph 54 or replace some other paragraphs in other parts of the report?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) No, Mr. Chairman, we are just seeking clarification because when we did speak to the matter we spoke under a different agenda item than what it is being reported at. We are perfectly fine with it being in this section and we just want to know if that is OK with the Secretariat and the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN Yes, distinguished representative of Canada, it is OK with the Secretariat. So, we leave the paragraph as it is and you check when the paragraph will come about the item you want to be included, to check if everything is OK there.

Are there any comments on paragraph 54 as it is? I see none.

Paragraph 54 is adopted.

Paragraph 55. Are there any comments on paragraph 55? I see none.

Paragraph 55 is adopted.

Paragraph 56. Are there any comments on paragraph 56. I see none.

Paragraph 56 is adopted.

Paragraph 57. Are there any comments on paragraph 57? I see none.

Paragraph 57 is adopted.

Paragraph 58. Are there any comments on paragraph 58? I see none.

Paragraph 58 is adopted.

Paragraph 59. Are there any comments on paragraph 59? I see none.

Paragraph 59 is adopted.

Paragraph 60. Are there any comments on paragraph 60? I see none.

Paragraph 60 is adopted.

Paragraph 61. Are there any comments on paragraph 61? I see none.

Paragraph 61 is adopted.

Paragraph 62. Are there any comments on paragraph 62? The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) I did not want to bother you but I do not really understand what we have here, I am comparing the English and the Russian. In Russian there is a reference for some sort of agenda for 21st century whereas in English it says agenda 21. So, what are we actually talking about here?

The CHAIRMAN Agenda 21, maybe there should be a correction made in the Russian text.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) And afterwards the next word in Russian should be taken out after this 21st century reference because if we say afterwards 'on the next thematic cluster' then you need a list of the points. There is too much discrepancy between the English and the Russian so the latter has to be cleaned up.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any comments on the English text. It is Agenda 21.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) We are dealing with the Arabic language, we are not just only concerned about the English. The Arabic language has the same thing, it has the 21st century and this Agenda 21 is a meeting held in Rio de Janeiro, so there is a difference between agenda and century.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for his comment. I give the floor to the Secretariat who will put a footnote and make the modification in other languages.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Of course as delegations recall when the issue was presented by the Secretariat in the course of this session, it was clearly stated that it is the Agenda 21 that we are talking about, so the Secretariat will put a footnote here so that it is crystal clear what we are discussing. Several language translations have the same problem. I think in the Spanish version it is also referred to something else than Agenda 21 from the Rio conference that we are talking about.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat. Distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) Can we define again the 21 as the Earth Conference because

actually there is a name for it, it is the Earth Conference.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative. In the footnote it will be clear in all languages that this is about the conference in Rio, the Agenda 21.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Yet another request. In the Russian version we should strike the word (____?) because in English what we have is the next thematic cluster whereas in Russian we should have (____?) and it is obvious that it is just not in sync.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. I ask the Secretariat to compare the versions and to make the adequate modifications in Arabic and Russian as I understand and there will be a footnote stating precisely that it is about the Agenda 21.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Just very briefly we should also like the Secretariat to check with the Chinese version which has the same problem.

The CHAIRMAN The Secretariat will check with all languages. Thank you distinguished representative of China. Are there any comments on paragraph 62 as it is in English and will be accordingly corrected in all other languages? I see none.

Paragraph 62 is adopted.

Paragraph 63. Are there any comments on paragraph 63? The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) In the Russian it says that they agreed that the Director should participate in such and such an activity and in English, the word agreed probably should be (____?) in Russian because the Committee cannot force the Director to do anything or to participate or to attend or whatever.

The CHAIRMAN Yes, you are right distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. I propose also to the Secretariat to take note that 'agreed' in English should read (____?) in Russian.

Are there any other comments on paragraph 63? Spain has the floor.

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*) The Spanish should be

checked as well because in the Spanish version we have (____?) for 'requested' and that is not really the right choice.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Spain. What should the correct word be in Spanish?

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, 'requested'. Sorry, Mr. Chairman I have made a mistake about the paragraph. My mistake I take it all back.

The CHAIRMAN We have spoken now about paragraph 63 'the Committee agreed that the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs' and so on. Are there any mistakes in any other language apart from Russian with that paragraph?

Paragraph 63 with the corrections in Russian is adopted.

Paragraph 64. Are there any comments on paragraph 64? Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I do not think it is one organization even in our (____?) we have developed this and I think us and Syria and others. Maybe the translation did not come through but it is actually many delegations.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for your comments. Paragraph 64 will read: 'Some delegations expressed the view that the Committee' and so on. Is this correct?

Are there any other comments on paragraph 64 with the modification proposed by Saudi Arabia to start the paragraph with 'some delegations'? I see no comments.

Paragraph 64 is adopted.

Paragraph 65. Are there any comments on paragraph 65? I see none.

Paragraph 65 is adopted.

We start now with Chapter II of A/AC.105/L.279/Add.1. Recommendations and decisions. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-seventh session.

Paragraph 1. Are there any comments on paragraph 1? I see none.

Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. Are there any comments on paragraph 2? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 2 is adopted.

Paragraph 3. Sudan has the floor.

Mr. M. RAIS (Sudan) (*interpretation from Arabic*) We made a statement on paragraph 3 here and we would like our name to be inserted here.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Sudan. We will include the name of Sudan in this paragraph and I give the floor to the Secretariat for some other clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) In this paragraph we will have to include that, Costa Rica on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States also made a statement under this item.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any other comments on paragraph 3 with the proposed inclusions of 'Sudan' and 'Costa Rica on behalf of' as it was read by the Secretariat?

Mr. M. RAIS (Sudan) (*interpretation from Arabic*) Sorry, also in paragraph 3 many States welcomed the new Chairman, again we would like to say the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN Distinguished representative of Sudan thank you for your proposal. Here this is about the Chairman of the Subcommittee there are no vice-chairmen of the subcommittees and it is included in paragraph 2 'the Committee expressed its appreciation to the Chairman of the Subcommittee'.

Mr. M. RAIS (Sudan) (*interpretation from Arabic*) Sorry.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Sudan. Are there any other proposals or comments on paragraph 3 as it was proposed with the clarifications made by the Secretariat and the addition of Sudan? I see none.

Paragraph 3 is adopted.

Paragraph 4. Are there any comments on paragraph 4? (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h)? I see no comments.

Paragraph 4 is adopted.

United Nations programme on space applications. (a) Activities of the United Nations programme on space applications. Paragraph 5, are there any comments on paragraph 5? I see none.

Paragraph 5 is adopted.

Paragraph 6. Are there any comments on paragraph 6? I see none.

Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Paragraph 7. Are there any comments on paragraph 7? I see none.

Paragraph 7 is adopted.

Paragraph 8. Are there any comments on paragraph 8? I see none.

Paragraph 8 is adopted.

Paragraph 9. Are there any comments on paragraph 9? I see none.

Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Paragraph 10. Are there any comments on paragraph 10? I see none.

Paragraph 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11. Are there any comments on paragraph 11? I see none.

Paragraph 11 is adopted.

Paragraph 12. Are there any comments on paragraph 12? Canada has the floor.

Ms. A.-M. Lan PHAN (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) Our delegation would have a question for the expert on the applications programme. With regard to the initiatives mentioned in this paragraph, we would like to know whether there is any available documentation on the OOSA Internet site on this work. We have noted that when the applications expert spoke he did mention that these initiatives existed but just as for the other paragraphs mentioned we would just be wondering whether there is any reference number to OOSA documentation that we could get.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada. As I know and as I remember such reference was made in the speech made by the expert on space applications but I will give him the floor for further clarification.

Mr. T. DOI (Secretariat) Thank you very much for the question from the Canadian delegate. As for the initiatives, the first initiative I mentioned is the basic space science initiative and yes, we have web information about this initiative. Also we have the website pages delegated for basic space technology initiative. Right now we are creating the human space technology initiative so, at this moment, we do not have the web page dedicated to this initiative. As for the supporting documents, I would like to give the Canadian delegate the numbers of the documents later since we do not have that information handy at this moment.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished UN expert on space applications. Also, I would like to remind delegates that a reference to the human space technology initiative was made by the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in her statement.

Are there any other questions with regard to paragraph 12?

Ms. A.-M. Lan PHAN (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) Thank you Mr. Chairman for your comment. I believe that the expert's statement has been made available and indeed we have seen this reference in his statement as well. I would like to request that the references for this initiative be made available to all delegations since, within the programme, there is going to be a workshop activity to be organized in Malaysia and we would like to have all the documentation. It is necessary for this initiative itself since there is already an activity scheduled within the programme for 2011.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada for her comment. For sure we will ask the Office to put on the web page all necessary information for preparation of further events connected with this new initiative.

Are there any other comments on this paragraph? I see none.

Paragraph 12 is adopted.

Paragraph 13. Are there any comments on paragraph 13? I see none

Paragraph 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. Here I have a question to the Director of the Office. Will the event in Malaysia be organized in November 2010 or will it be postponed and we have to include here just the Fall of 2010 to be more flexible?

Are there any comments on paragraph 14 as it is? I see none.

Paragraph 14 is adopted.

Paragraph 15. Are there any comments on paragraph 15? I see none.

Paragraph 15 is adopted.

Paragraph 16. Are there any comments on paragraph 16? I see none.

Paragraph 16 is adopted.

Long-term fellowship for in-depth training, paragraph 17. Are there any comments on paragraph 17? I see none.

Paragraph 17 is adopted.

Paragraph 18. Are there any comments on paragraph 18? I see none.

Paragraph 18 is adopted.

Paragraph 19. Are there any comments on paragraph 19? I see none.

Paragraph 19 is adopted.

(b) International space information service, paragraph 20. Are there any comments on paragraph 20? I see none.

Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21. Are there any comments on paragraph 21? I see none.

Paragraph 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. Are there any comments on paragraph 22? I see none.

Paragraph 22 is adopted.

(c) Regional and interregional cooperation, paragraph 23. Are there any comments on paragraph 23? I see none.

Paragraph 23 is adopted.

(d) International satellite system for search and rescue, paragraph 24. Are there any comments on paragraph 24? I see none.

Paragraph 24 is adopted.

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) I have to ask your indulgence to go back to paragraph 23. I read the document A/AC.105/969, there should be annex 1, 2 and 3 rather than only annex 3 because this covers from 2009 until 2011. Annex 1 concerns 2009, annex 2 is concerning 2010 and annex 3 is concerning next year.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China for his clarification. In paragraph 23 the last line the documents will read as A/AC.105/969, annexes 1-3. Are there any other comments on this paragraph? I see none.

Paragraph 23 with the modification proposed by China is adopted.

Paragraph 24 is already adopted.

Paragraph 25. Are there any comments on paragraph 25? I see none.

Paragraph 25 is adopted.

Paragraph 26. Are there any comments on paragraph 26? I see none.

Paragraph 26 is adopted.

Paragraph 27. Are there any comments on paragraph 27? I see none.

Paragraph 27 is adopted.

Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment, paragraph 28. Are there any comments on paragraph 28? I see none.

Paragraph 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. Are there any comments on paragraph 29? I see none.

Paragraph 29 is adopted.

Paragraph 30. Are there any comments on paragraph 30? I see none.

Paragraph 30 is adopted.

Paragraph 31. Are there any comments on paragraph 31? I see none.

Paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Are there any comments on paragraph 32? I see none.

Paragraph 32 is adopted.

Paragraph 33. The distinguished representative of Algeria has the floor.

Mr. A. OUSSEDIK (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*) In the French language version there is a suggestion to re-word the paragraph, 'the view was expressed that the unrestricted' (____?) unregulated availability of high resolution satellite data in the public domain could (____?) be detrimental to the safety of people and States. That delegation proposed that the Committee and its Legal Subcommittee place this matter on the agenda of the next session to develop guidelines for the regulation of the sale, distribution and dissemination of high resolution satellite data on the Internet.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Algeria. You proposed first to change the wording in French and replaced 'could be' in French with (____?).

Distinguished representative of Algeria please repeat the modification you propose at the end of the paragraph.

Mr. A. OUSSEDIK (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*) Very well. The Committee and its Legal Subcommittee instead of 'should consider developing guidelines' I am suggesting that 'place this item on the agenda of their next session to establish guidelines' back to the original text 'for the regulation of the sale, distribution and dissemination'.

I am therefore suggesting that we delete 'could consider developing' and instead of that 'place this

item on the agenda of their next session in order to establish guidelines' and the remainder as it stands.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Algeria for your proposal.

The distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia has the floor.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think the representative of Saudi Arabia has been talking about this since 2007 because we have seen the data from the Internet, it is being used very badly in our region by terrorists and we are fighting the terrorists I think this should be taken into consideration. I agree with the Algerian delegation to have this as a subject to be discussed very thoroughly and heavily.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Then we will change this to 'some delegations' is the proposal.

We start from the very beginning with 'some delegations expressed the view that the unrestricted' and so on and that 'those delegations proposed that the Committee and its Legal Subcommittee place this item on the agenda of the next sessions in order to establish guidelines for the regulation of the sale, distribution and dissemination of high resolution satellite data on the Internet'. This is the proposal made by Algeria and sustained by the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Are there any comments on this proposed modification of paragraph 33? I see none.

Paragraph 33, with the proposed modifications from Algeria and sustained by the representative of Saudi Arabia, is approved.

Space debris, paragraph 34. Are there any comments on paragraph 34? I see none.

Paragraph 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. Are there any comments on paragraph 35? I see none.

Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Paragraph 36. Are there any comments on paragraph 36? I see none.

Paragraph 36 is adopted.

Paragraph 37. Are there any comments on paragraph 37? Distinguished representative of the Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) The very last sentence it says that 'the Committee has also noted that other States are implementing guiding principles to counter space debris' and that this is implemented by way of a standard framework. If there is a European code to prevent space debris and that is being used as a reference document or is there some sort of a document which European States are party to this code, that they are obliged to follow, is that the case? What is the situation?

The CHAIRMAN Spain has the floor for clarification because it was a proposal made by the European Union.

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*) The proposal for the code of conduct is one intended to bring parties together but on a voluntary basis. It has some general references to the need to comply with guidelines to mitigate space debris. Specifically, the European Union has not made any statement in regard of natural debris at this session, I do not think there is a need to reflect that fact. Furthermore, the European Union supports the guidelines that we get from the Interagency Space Debris Coordination Committee.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Spain for her intervention. I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) In this paragraph we are not talking about the European Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities that we referred to in the previous paragraph. In this paragraph we are talking about the European Code of Conduct for Space Debris Mitigation which is a completely different mechanism. This is the space debris mitigation code of conduct for European States and for ESA. Maybe some European also ESA member States can clarify? This is the understanding of the Secretariat that we are not talking about European Code of Conduct on Outer Space Activities that we discussed earlier this is the European Code of Conduct for Space Debris Mitigation which is a completely different document.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for clarification.

Is this satisfactory for you distinguished representative of Russia?

Are there any other comments or proposals?

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Well, of course, they always exist. So, there is a European code of conduct, that is fine but why does it say here that this is being used as a reference document, in other words am I going to look it up in that reference code and then am I going to comply with that? Or is it a binding instrument? I do not understand what a reference document is, possibly I am mistaken, maybe this whole thing is nonsense.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Russia. Maybe this is a misunderstanding in Russian because in the English text it states 'the Committee also noted that other States were using the IADC guidelines and European Code of Conduct for Space Debris Mitigation as reference points in their regulatory frameworks established for national space activities'.

Is this a misunderstanding in the Russian text?

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Everything is alright it is just that I was somewhat puzzled. Usually there is a working document and then it is implemented but the reference document was where my eyebrows shot up somehow I was puzzled at that point. It seems that in the UN we seem to be developing our own principles and other sets of principles, so what is this European Code of Conduct? What is its relevance? Or is that just taken as a general reference document or as a binding reference document, all these questions come to mind?

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. I give the floor to the representative of Spain and then Great Britain.

Ms. T. ZABALA UTRILLAS (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I suggest that we delete 'and the European Code of Conduct for Space Debris Mitigation'. It may have given rise to some misunderstanding when referred to the code of conduct in the area of space activities. We referred to the code to which we referred in the general statement. This code refers to the need to follow the guidelines but there are no separate guides.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the Spain. United Kingdom has the floor.

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom) I think this probably comes down to the way in which we read the language and read the word 'reference'. My understanding is that IADC guidelines exist, European Code of Conduct Guidelines on Space Debris Mitigation exist and for some States these are voluntary guidelines to follow but for others they may be just interesting texts that States may wish to use when looking at their own regulatory frameworks when they are developing their own guidelines. When we say to use the IADC guidelines and European guidelines as reference points, we are talking about referencing them when developing guidelines not as formal reference points. States may not actually use them as part of their guidelines it is just that they are documents that are useful when States are developing guidelines and it would be useful to keep these two references in this paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the United Kingdom. The distinguished representative of Germany has the floor.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) I fully endorse what has been said by my British colleague. I think in the Russian version the word could be replaced by another word that seems more convenient for our Russian colleague.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Germany for your comment. The proposal made by the UK and sustained by Germany is to leave the paragraph as it is and maybe to better reflect in the Russian text the meaning of the paragraph expressed in English.

Are there any comments on this proposal? I see no more comments on paragraph 37.

Paragraph 37 is approved as it is.

Paragraph 38. Are there any comments on paragraph 38? I see none.

Paragraph 38 is approved.

Paragraph 39. Are there any comments on paragraph 39? I see none.

Paragraph 39 is adopted.

Paragraph 40. Are there any comments on paragraph 40? I see none.

Paragraph 40 is adopted.

Paragraph 41. Are there any comments? Canada has the floor for paragraph 41.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Again, we propose that this paragraph be removed from this section on space debris although it is pertinent to space debris but it was not made in that context. We made our statement that is contained in paragraph 41 with respect to section 10, long term sustainability of outer space activities and so we would propose to move that paragraph to an appropriate paragraph within section 10 of this current document.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada. I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Later on in this document under the section 10, there is a paragraph 97 that also refers to the best practices guidelines and the re-entry notifications etc. We have the reference in the current section on space debris but we also have a reference in paragraph 97 which we will come to.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) OK we can keep it in both places.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any other comments on paragraph 41? I see none.

Paragraph 41 is adopted.

Paragraph 42. Are there any comments on paragraph 42? Here we begin the paragraph with 'some delegations'. Are there any comments on paragraph 42?

Mr. S. SHESTAKOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) I will be very brief. Here, the parentheses what does that mean? That is my first question. Secondly, was this view really put because I have questions that come to mind as to the way in which the Committee is informed in purely technical terms. What are we going to have when we open the parentheses? Is it one State that expressed the view or a series that expressed the view that. Could you please clarify?

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Russia. I just said maybe the translator did not follow me at the right time I just said that the paragraph will start with 'Some delegations

expressed the view that the States most responsible for the creation' and so on. 'Some delegations' - is that clear for all delegations? Are there any other comments on paragraph 42? I see none.

Paragraph 42 is adopted.

Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) On this topic the regional group, GRULAC, did put some points that are not reflected in here. Could you please see to it that those views are inserted? They are contained in paragraph 12 and we have handed the document to the Secretariat and it is available in English furthermore. However, I would like you to listen to the text which I am going to read. It would read as follows, 'Some delegations believe it is necessary for this Committee to step up interaction with the two working subcommittees, the Scientific and Technical and the Legal Subcommittee for the purpose of evolving binding international standards to cover critical issues such as space debris and nuclear power sources in outer space, inter alia or among other issues, bearing in mind the fact that one of the main responsibilities of the United Nations is to promote progressive international law' and so and so forth. This is an important part of the GRULAC statement on this substantive item which is not in the text which is why we are asking the Secretariat to insert the language.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela. I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) In the section on general exchange of information on national mechanisms related to space debris mitigation measures, paragraph 149 in this document Add.1, reflects the point raised by Venezuela. Furthermore, in this same document, Add.1, paragraph 130, under the section, review and possible revision of the principles relevant to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space, reflects the same notion expressed by the distinguished delegate of Venezuela. So, paragraph 130 and paragraph 149.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. We are pleased to see the paragraph in the places pointed out by the Secretariat. However, because we are referring to the guidelines here not to the principles, it is on the principles and the nuclear power sources. Principles to be adopted by countries in their national legislation and it is fine for it to be there but it would also be good to have it under the particular item on space debris. I would also like to

say that it is a regional group position, it is that of GRULAC and not the position of Venezuela, so please could there also be a paragraph on this in 43?

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela.

I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat understands the proposal by the distinguished delegate of Venezuela as follows, that paragraph 149 which will reflect that 'some delegations were of the view that the space debris mitigation guidelines' and so forth, that that paragraph be copied into the section we are deliberating now and will become paragraph 42bis so there will be a paragraph 42bis with the same content as paragraph 149 and paragraph 149 will remain as it is.

The CHAIRMAN Paragraph 149 will start with 'some delegations were of the view that'. Are there any comments on the proposal made by the Secretariat as a demand of Venezuela?

So, we will have paragraph 42bis copied from paragraph 149 of the same Add.1 and paragraph 149 will remain in the same place. Are there any comments? I see none.

We will adopt paragraph 42bis.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) Excuse me for my late reaction time. Would it be the only paragraph that we will find twice in the document because it seems to me to be not very efficient to have the same paragraphs twice in a document.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Germany. There was that space debris problem it is in both sections, 3 space debris and 7 general exchange of information on national mechanisms related to space debris mitigation measures. I ask for further comments if they are from any delegation connected with the proposal made by Venezuela and reflected by the Secretariat. I understand Germany is of the view that we should not put the same information in several sections of the report.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I think you were extremely clear when you sought to explain to us that these are substantive issues, they are cross-cutting, they refer to various

items on the agenda. When we referred to space debris guidelines they are principles in this respect. We believe that we need legally binding rules which would indeed link the two, the principles and the guidelines, and maybe this would result in legally binding norms subsequently, who knows. This work should be launched because this is complex work, it is delicate, sensitive work, this is a matter which refers to various items on the agenda and various rules and standards. I do not want to improperly construe what Germany is saying because it is not saying how you should draft your report but I do believe it is in the spirit of the text. You have been very clear indeed and I can continue pressing this point but I do not want to be the only speaker on this.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. According to the understanding of the Secretariat, paragraph 149 where it is about the space debris mitigation guidelines was put under general exchange of information on national mechanisms related to space debris mitigation measures and you proposed to put it also in the section of the ...

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Sorry Mr. Chairman. I said this because it was simpler that way. We could pick up what is stated in the GRULAC statement and put this into 149 but to facilitate and expedite the Secretariat's work I suggested that we group this together but if you want us to come up with another paragraph we could do that as well. We had wanted to expedite the work and just cut and paste but we can also draft a new paragraph and present this to the Secretariat. If you want us to come up with a new paragraph we can do that too, we can try to whip one up, straight away if you want. I do not want us to get the impression that we keep hammering on one and the same thing, we were just really trying to expedite our work. If you want us to come up with a separate paragraph we can do that too.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. The distinguished representative of China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Although we are quite hesitant to take the floor at this stage but we should look back to paragraph 41, we have the same problem. Just as the Canadian has said that in the other part of the report we have the same wording but we agreed to keep 41 and this paragraph. I should say that we should take care of these issues equally rather than to have different (____?) between delegates.

The CHAIRMAN I understand that you propose to keep paragraph 149 where it is and not copy ...

Mr. Y. XU (China) No, not valid because 149 (____?) the new proposal from Venezuela, it is the same but 41 is the same too but we keep both. So, we just suggest we keep a copy of 149 and in this section rather than only have one place.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. The proposal made by Venezuela and sustained by China is to copy paragraph 149 as paragraph 42bis. Are there any comments? If there are no comments, paragraph 149 will be copied in the section space debris as paragraph 42bis.

It is so decided.

Paragraph 43. Are there any comments on paragraph 43? Space-system-based disaster management support. I see no comments.

Paragraph 43 is adopted.

Paragraph 44. Are there any comments on paragraph 44? I see no comments.

Paragraph 44 is adopted.

Paragraph 45. Are there any comments on paragraph 45? Yes, Canada you have the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) I am not sure that we note with satisfaction the progress made. If we want this paragraph to read as it is, it should be the Committee noted.

The CHAIRMAN I understand, Canada. Your proposal is to change 'the Committee noted with satisfaction' to just 'the Committee noted the progress made as reflected'. What is your specific proposal, Canada?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) To delete the words 'with satisfaction'.

The CHAIRMAN OK I understand, thank you distinguished representative of Canada.

Paragraph 45 as proposed by Canada will read 'The Committee noted the progress made as reflected in the report' and so on. Is this agreeable for delegations? Are there any other comments?

Paragraph 45 with the modification proposed by Canada is adopted.

Paragraph 46. Are there any comments on paragraph 46? I see none.

Paragraph 46 is adopted.

Paragraph 47. Are there any comments on paragraph 47?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) I just have a question to ask of the Secretariat. How is the UN-SPIDER programme currently funded?

The CHAIRMAN I will give the floor to the specialist of the Office for UN-SPIDER.

Mr. D. STEVENS (Secretariat) As when it was established, the UN-SPIDER is basically a programme funded with the contributions made on a voluntary basis. We do also have a limited core funding also provided in the budget we receive biennially from the regular budget.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of OOSA. Is that clear? The distinguished representative of Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Is the funding provided by member States deposited into the UN-SPIDER SpaceAid fund or does it go to a general fund for OOSA?

Mr. D. STEVENS (Secretariat) The funding goes to the existing trust fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. When we receive the funding from the voluntary contributions, we open an account depending on whether it is earmarked or not. The funding we received from the Government of Spain was earmarked for a workshop in Ecuador, so we opened up a specific account with that contribution. So we open up separate accounts, it is a separate financial control of all the money we receive.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any other questions on the content of paragraph 47?

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) I have a question concerning what has just been said by the Secretariat. I understand that the UN-SPIDER programme is funded from one part by voluntary contributions and the other part I just heard is a limited core funding coming from the regular budget received by the Office. My question is, in which sense is this

core funding limited? Is it limited in time or is it limited in amount? Or maybe it is both. I would like to have clarification on this and if possible that we know which amount it is and from which period.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Switzerland. The Secretariat has the floor.

Mr. D. STEVENS (Secretariat) When the workplan for 2007-2009 was approved by the General Assembly it also triggered a PBI, a Programme Budget Implication, in which it led to the definition of the needs of funds from the regular budget and that was voted by the General Assembly in December 2007 and those funds are limited in size, in a sense they form just a core funding not in time. To be more precise, it refers to the three programme officer posts, one leading the office in Bonn, the second leading the office in Beijing and the third one supporting the activities carried out in Vienna. Also some funds to provide its support for experts on an annual basis to hold an expert meeting. That was what was agreed. It represents approximately one-third of the total amount available to UN-SPIDER including the voluntary contributions.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification. Are there any other questions?

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) Could the Secretariat be more precise on what the amount per year is?

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Switzerland. Could the Secretariat answer this question?

Mr. D. STEVENS (Secretariat) I can definitely check and provide you with the information.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you. Are you satisfied distinguished representative of Switzerland that this information will be provided to you later and adopt paragraph 47. Are there any other comments on paragraph 47? I see none.

Paragraph 47 is adopted.

I just inform you that we will finish this first part of this morning's meeting in eight minutes.

Paragraph 48. Are there any comments on paragraph 48? I see none.

Paragraph 48 is adopted.

Paragraph 49. Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Our recommendation for a change to this paragraph is that the paragraph stop after the words 'emergency response activities' so it becomes a full stop.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you for the proposal made by the representative of Canada. The representative of Canada made a proposal to have a shorter paragraph 49 as 'The Committee noted with satisfaction the increase in the availability of space-based information to support disaster management, particularly emergency response activities.'

Switzerland has the floor.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) Yes, the Swiss delegation would support the proposal just made by the delegation of Canada and would like to add a further suggestion, indeed it seems to us that it would be appropriate to complement this paragraph by elaborating or reflecting on the statements made by delegations giving credit to international initiatives and mechanisms like, the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters, like Sentinel Asia, like the European initiative GMES, SAFER, for instance. I do not have any wording to suggest right now but I would be ready to work with the Secretariat on that.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Switzerland. The first proposal is to delete one part of paragraph 49, after 'response activities'. This is the proposal of Canada sustained by Switzerland.

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) China would like to support to retain the second part of this paragraph although, in the spirit of compromise, we can suggest that we follow the Canadian suggestion to change the second part into 'The Committee also noted the work carried out' and so on. It is a watered down version but those activities were carried out by the UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework which were noted. Although we agree that some delegations are not so satisfied with the work carried out but we should note it that work was carried out under that framework. I just propose a compromise version 'the Committee noted'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. The proposal made by China is to separate paragraph 49 into two parts. The first sentence to end after 'response activities.' Then 'the Committee also noted the work carried out within the

UN-SPIDER SpaceAid' and so. Are there any other comments on this?

First the United States of America and then Switzerland.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States) Mr. Chairman, I could support the proposal made by Canada to end the paragraph after 'response activities' but then I have another question which is more procedural. In paragraph 49, we note the work carried out within the SpaceAid framework but I am not entirely clear if, in fact, we have approved the SpaceAid framework because we had CRP.11 that was a proposal on the basis of a recommendation from the Working Group of the Whole. Did in fact SPIDER carry out work under the SpaceAid framework or is the SpaceAid framework something separate from the establishment of a fund for SpaceAid? Maybe that is the case.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the USA. I will first give the floor to the Secretariat to clarify that question and then to Switzerland.

Mr. D. STEVENS (Secretariat) The SpaceAid framework is already included in the plan of work 2010-2011 and we have been carrying out the SpaceAid framework more effectively since September last year. CRP.11 provides a summary of the events we have supported within the framework. What the CRP also provides as additional information is the fact that we have established a separate account, within the existing trust fund, to basically be able to earmark specific funds that can contribute to the work of the SpaceAid framework beyond what is currently available within the existing mechanisms.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) Concerning the second part of the present paragraph 49, if it is were to be used in another paragraph, as suggested by the Chinese delegation, a new paragraph starting with 'the Committee noted the work carried out within the UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework' and so on, then the Swiss delegation would suggest to make a slight change in the text of that new paragraph and to replace, let me read the text, 'UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework which was supporting interested end-users in having access to and using all the space-based information made available by existing mechanisms and initiatives'. I would suggest to replace 'all' by 'a lot of'. It is almost impossible to be exhaustive when

speaking about available space-based information and therefore we would suggest to have the text reading the following way 'UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework which was supporting interested end-users in having access to and using a lot of the space-based information made available by existing mechanisms and initiatives to support responses to emergency events.' So it is just a replacement of 'all' by 'a lot of'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland. I ask the Secretariat if this way of expressing things is in accordance with the terminology used by the Secretariat.

I give the floor to the Secretariat.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat understands the splitting up of paragraph 49 as follows. Paragraph 49, the first segment will be retained and Switzerland will come up with some additional text to be placed after 'response activities'. Then there will be a 49bis which will read, 'The Committee also noted the work carried out within the' and then so forth. Instead of 'all' it will be 'a lot of'. We will of course check with Editorial Section whether it will be 'a lot of' or something similar but of course not 'all' it will be capturing this essence.

The CHAIRMAN Is this agreeable to distinguished delegates?

Austria has the floor.

Mr. R. THYM (Austria) We support the proposal of retaining both parts of what is now paragraph 49, separating it into two separate paragraphs. As for the wording, the proposal suggested by our distinguished Swiss colleague, we could simply phrase it saying that 'having access to and using space-based information made available'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Austria. From the first paragraph, the distinguished delegate of Canada asked to delete 'with satisfaction'.

So, the first paragraph 49 is as it is until 'response activities.' The additional 49bis will reflect the second part of the paragraph and delete 'all' as proposed by Austria. I mean 'having access and using space-based information made available by existing'.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) My suggestion was that I would provide some text to elaborate on the other initiatives in the first part of this

paragraph. Concerning the proposal of just deleting 'all the' having the text reading, 'using space-based information made available' that would keep exactly the same meaning in the sense that that would mean that all space-based information made available would be made available throughout the UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework, which is not the case. So we would like to have it precise that a lot of space-based information is available through the UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework but not all of it. So I would come back to my first suggestion on that point to just replace 'all' by 'a lot of' or any other English word having the same sense would be agreeable for Switzerland.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland for her proposal. We have to stop here.

We will come back to this paragraph requesting Switzerland to propose the phrasing for the addition to the paragraph they wanted to. Please, after the break come with the formulation of your proposal.

I just ask the distinguished representatives to leave paragraph 49 for debate right after the break at 3 p.m. and I ask your permission to pass to paragraph 50.

Are there any comments on paragraph 50?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) We object to paragraph 50 on a number of reasons and 51 after that. What we had agreed at the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in A/AC.105/958, annex I, section IV, paragraph 12, that the Working Group of the Whole requested the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat to prepare a proposal to be considered by the Committee at its fifty-third session in June 2010 on the establishment of a fund for SpaceAid. We do not recall that this proposal has been presented to us in the plenary of this Committee to give its consideration, throughout the whole session and therefore we find it forecasting an outcome that never occurred in a report of this Committee and we find that odd.

Secondly, Canada spoke to the matter after having an informal session meeting on UN-SPIDER under agenda item 8, where we made representations that we had serious misgivings about the creation of the fund and, while an attempt was made under 51, we do not see how that reflects what happened either. We do not want to see paragraphs 50 or 51 in this report.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. Are there any comments on the proposal made by Canada to delete paragraphs 50

and 51? Are there comments? Are there any other proposals? Do you agree with the complete deletion of paragraphs 50 and 51 from the report?

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) We have very carefully looked at the report of last year's Science and Technology Subcommittee although there is mentioned a proposal but in this session we did receive a paper entitled: Establishment of a fund for the SpaceAid framework and we had a very in-depth presentation from the Secretariat, the aims of the SpaceAid framework fund so I am not sure whether we should be (____?) to the term proposal. I just want to give a chance to the Secretariat to explain further, whether A/CRP.11 is a proposal in nature rather than just a CRP report.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. I give the floor to the Secretariat.

Mr. D. STEVENS (Secretariat) CRP.11 is the paper that the Secretariat prepared informing on the fact that the Office has established an account within the existing trust fund. We have been receiving contributions from countries for various earmarked activities. We have specifically been requested by the General Assembly to ensure that countries can access and use not only through the agreement of the General Assembly when approving the plan of work but also in the humanitarian resolution which specifically indicated that SPIDER should receive funds to ensure that countries can have an access and use the space-based information. In essence, we see the fund as an account in which we can earmark contributions for the implementation of the SpaceAid framework. CRP.11 reflects exactly what the fund will be used for and why it is needed and also reflects the fact that there is no need to establish an additional trust fund, the fact that the existing trust fund allows us to simply create an account which would enable these contributions from the countries that indicate that they would like to have their funds earmarked specifically for this need.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you Secretariat for the clarification. We have to finish, we do not have any more translation. I urge delegations, during the break, to have a discussion with the Secretariat and to have a point of view of the reflection in the paragraphs of this section of what they want to be included.

I now adjourn this morning's meeting. We will meet here promptly at 3 p.m.

The meeting closed at 1.24 p.m.