

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Unedited transcript

627th Meeting
Friday, 18 June 2010, 3 p.m.
Vienna

Chairman: Mr. Dumitru Dorin PRUNARIU (Romania)

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN Good afternoon distinguished delegates. I now declare open the 627th meeting of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

This afternoon we will continue and conclude agenda item 17, report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

We had under discussion paragraph 49. The Secretariat will read out the formulation of paragraph 49 as it was proposed. The Secretariat has the floor.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Paragraph 49, the proposal is that it would read as follows 'The Committee noted with satisfaction the increase in the availability of space-based information to support disaster management particularly emergency response activities through several existing mechanisms, among others, the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters, the Sentinel Asia initiative, and the GMES SAFER initiative in Europe.

Then, as paragraph 49bis, the proposal is that it reads as follows 'The Committee noted the work carried out within the UN-SPIDER SpaceAid framework which was supporting interested end-users in having access to and using a lot of space-based information made available by existing mechanisms and initiatives to support responses to emergency events.'

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for clarification of paragraphs 49 and 49bis. Are there any comments on paragraph 49? I see no comments.

We then adopt paragraph 49.

Are there any comments on paragraph 49bis as it was read by the Secretariat? I see no comments.

Paragraph 49bis is adopted.

Now we have paragraphs 50 and 51 with new proposals formulated by the distinguished delegate of Canada.

I give the floor to the distinguished delegate of Canada to make the proposal for the next two paragraphs.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Thank you very much but I believe the Secretariat has something to say, the Office for Outer Space Affairs that led to our need to make this intervention. I give the floor back to the Office.

I give the floor to the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs for clarification.

Ms. M. OTHMAN (Director, OOSA) Thank you distinguished delegate of Canada. I would just like to make one step back and remind ourselves what this is about. I would like to refer to the resolution adopted by the General Assembly in its sixty-first session, A/RES/61/110 regarding the establishment of UN-SPIDER. In paragraph 6, the resolution decides to establish a programme within the United Nations to provide universal access to all countries and all relevant international and regional organizations to all types of space-based information and services relevant to disaster management to support the full disaster

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management cycle. Then it goes on to say how we do this.

Then paragraph 7 agrees that the programme would be supported through voluntary contributions.

So, Mr. Chairman this is why we have been particularly working hard to get these voluntary contributions.

Then again I have to step back in what happened in February this year. In February we thought that it was necessary to create a new trust fund in order to receive funds specifically for one of SPIDER's activities, namely, the support for emergency response but when we discussed the details on how to execute this, we were advised by the Finance Resource Management Services that it was not necessary to set up a new trust fund and that it was sufficient to establish a separate account within the existing trust funds and the name of the trust fund is the Trust Fund for Space Applications. The requirement is to establish a separate account and not a new trust fund there is no need for us to receive a new mandate from the Committee or permission from the Controller in the UN. That is the reason why we had to inform you, we did not have to get approval to set up a new trust fund.

On the other hand, I would like to explain that there have been disaster events in the past where we have been requested, by (____?) in this case, for high resolution imagery for their requirements and we knew at the time that only (____?) had such information but of course we did not have any money to buy the information and therefore we just did whatever we could to have other sorts of imagery but this kind of request do come to us.

Another instance in Guatemala, we were requested to help them with a drought situation and there again, in a drought situation, there are other considerations and we were not allowed to get the information that was required by I think at that time was (____?).

The point, Mr. Chairman, is we go with a begging bowl at the time when a disaster happens and we cannot provide everything that is needed on the ground at that particular time. The idea of setting up this trust fund so that we have some kitty when it is absolutely necessary to get images not available from anywhere else and would have to purchased we would have a small, we are not thinking of big amounts of money. Also, within our procurement procedures, we would also have to make sure that all procurements are

coordinated within the UN system and we would have to make sure we do not duplicate, this is also a procurement requirement.

As I said, we go around with a begging bowl whenever something happens and we would like to be able to do something more than that.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

Are the explanations given by the Director satisfactory?

Canada you have the floor to re-formulate ...

India has the floor please, one moment.

Mr. S. SHIVAKUMAR (India) In fact, recalling that the cooperation in disaster management support being a kind of voluntary cum best effort basis-driven initiative, I think resorting to buying data from private satellite operators thereto by giving a cost would eventually serve as a deterrent for the space agencies who have been serving the cause on a voluntary and best effort basis. We should be careful and my suggestion is that we need to seriously re-look at whether the contribution could be interpreted in terms of contribution in kind and not by cash because if I read it right what the Director of OOSA has said is its just a provision for contribution and why should we really interpret the contribution as contribution in cash why can it not be in kind and I think we should pursue a little more even the private satellite operators to contribute data for a cause like a natural disaster.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of India. I do not want to open a debate because we are now approving the report and please stick directly to the paragraphs of the report. If you have some proposals, come directly with the modifications proposed, agree with them and to go on.

The distinguished representative of Canada you have the floor for the reformulation of the paragraphs you wanted to change.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Thank you to the Office for Outer Space Affairs for a comprehensive explanation of how we got here.

We would like to propose minor changes to paragraph 50. We recommend adding a new *50bis* and modify 51 accordingly. Allow me to proceed, I believe we have given you a copy of what I am about to say.

Paragraph 50 should read as follows ‘The Committee noted that the Office for Outer Space Affairs had established, as outlined in A/AC.105/2010/CRP.11, a SpaceAid account within the existing Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. The separate account would be used to receive funds to support the aims of the SpaceAid framework. The Committee also noted that the Office for Outer Space Affairs would inform member States of this account and invite them to make contributions.’ That is our recommendation for paragraph 50.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. Are there any comments on the recommendations made by the distinguished representative of Canada with regard to the modification of paragraph 50? I see none. The Secretariat has the text as it was read by the representative of Canada and will replace paragraph 50 with the new text proposed by Canada. If there are no comments.

We consider paragraph 50 adopted.

Paragraph 51. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Canada.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) For 51, we would like to remove the existing text and replace it with two paragraphs, the first one which I will read ‘The Committee also’ and I have used the word directed but you can find the appropriate language ‘directed the Office for Outer Space Affairs to meet with the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters, Sentinel Asia, the GMES project ‘Services and applications for Emergency Response’ (SAFER), the SERVIR project as well as others with a view to establish an agreed interface with UN-SPIDER to avoid overlaps and duplication of effort. The Office is to report back to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session, in 2011 on these efforts.’

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. Is it necessary to repeat the formulation of the paragraph, read out by Canada? I think it was quite clear. Are there any objections? I see no objections.

Paragraph 51, reformulated by Canada, is adopted.

I give the floor to the distinguished representative of Canada for an additional paragraph.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) We would like to record the debate that we did have under agenda item 8 when we did make an intervention on this situation so we would like paragraph 51*bis* to be ‘The view was expressed that the use of a SpaceAid account could lead to overlaps in access and use of existing and readily available resources in response to disasters. The delegation stressed that the acquisition of imagery by UN-SPIDER may reduce the willingness of private sector operators of remote-sensing satellites to provide data free of charge for existing initiatives, as many currently do. The delegation further stressed that emergency preparedness, response and recovery is the responsibility of member States of the United Nations for their respective peoples.’

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada. Are there any comments on the new 51*bis* paragraph proposed by Canada? I see no comments.

Paragraph 51bis is adopted.

Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems

Paragraph 52. Are there any comments on paragraph 52? Japan has the floor.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan) My comment is not on paragraph 52 but before, under space-system-based disaster management support. In the statement of Japan, we introduced many activities regarding Sentinel Asia so we would like to include such information in this document. My suggestion is as follows ‘The view was expressed that many efforts will be made to make Sentinel Asia more effective and user-friendly in the hopes that more governments and institutions will make use of the project. The view was also expressed that the activities of Sentinel Asia including the result and lessons learned from it can provide useful ideas and a model for disaster management support activities in other regions where no there have not been initiatives similar to Sentinel Asia.’

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Japan for his proposals. Where, specifically, do you want to introduce this paragraph? After which one in the text?

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan) After 47, so 47*bis*.

The CHAIRMAN Yes, thank you distinguished representative of Japan. Please provide the Secretariat with the exact text that you have read.

Are there any comments on the introduction of paragraph 47*bis* as it was read by Japan regarding Sentinel Asia?

Distinguished representative of Japan, looking at the items included in the paragraphs, we recommend to introduce this paragraph after paragraph 49, before the paragraph proposed by Switzerland. Between 49 and 49*bis*, it is more proper there if you accept.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan) I accept, thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN Is there any comment on introducing the new paragraph proposed by Japan as it was read by the distinguished representative of Japan as 49*bis* and the former 49*bis* to be 49*ter*.

If I see no objections, we consider this paragraph adopted.

We go now to paragraph 52. Are there any comments on paragraph 52? I see none.

Paragraph 52 is adopted.

Paragraph 53. Are there any comments on paragraph 53? I see no comments.

Paragraph 53 is adopted.

Paragraph 54. Are there any comments on paragraph 54? 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 no comments.

Paragraph 58 is adopted.

Paragraph 59. Are there any comments on paragraph 59? I see no comments.

Paragraph 59 is adopted.

Paragraph 60. Are there any comments on paragraph 60? I see no comments.

Paragraph 60 is adopted.

Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

Paragraph 61. Are there any comments on paragraph 61? I see no comments.

Paragraph 61 is adopted.

Paragraph 62. Are there any comments on paragraph 62? I see no comments.

Paragraph 62 is adopted.

Paragraph 63. Are there any comments on paragraph 63? I see no comments.

Paragraph 63 is adopted.

Paragraph 64. Are there any comments on paragraph 64? I see no comments.

Paragraph 64 is adopted.

Now I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. H. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat has received a proposal from the delegation of Venezuela for a new paragraph 64*bis* that the Secretariat will read out in English 'The view was expressed that a closer link should be established between the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee with the aim of promoting international norms relevant to matters being considered by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee under this item, as well as to matters related to space debris and the use of nuclear power sources in outer space.'

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification. Is there any comment on the proposal made by Venezuela to introduce paragraph 64*bis* as it was read by the Secretariat? I see none.

Paragraph 64bis is adopted.

Paragraph 65. At the beginning of paragraph 65 we have to read 'Some delegations expressed the view that' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 65? I see none.

Paragraph 65 is adopted.

Paragraph 66. The same thing as in paragraph 65 'Some delegations were of the view that' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 66? I see none.

Paragraph 66 is adopted.

Near-Earth objects

Paragraph 67. Are there any comments on paragraph 67? I see none.

Paragraph 67 is adopted.

Paragraph 68. China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Very briefly, in the last line of paragraph 68 we should delete paragraph 151, only mention paragraph 152.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China for his proposal. The Secretariat is checking the document. Are there any comments on the proposal made by the distinguished representative of China to delete in paragraph 68, last line, 'paragraph 151 and' and leave just paragraph 152. Are there any comments? I see none.

With the modification proposed by China, paragraph 68 is adopted.

Paragraph 69. Are there any comments on paragraph 69? Distinguished representative of Mexico.

Mr. S. CAMACHO LARA (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) The comment that I am going to be making refers to 69 as well as 73. If I might and if you consider the information in these two paragraphs they are fairly similar. We believe that paragraph 73 is more concise and to the point and could be placed after 68. In paragraph 68, I do not have the English in front of me but in the Spanish version, at the beginning of the paragraph, it reads 'The Committee noted that on the margins of its fifty-third session' actually it is paragraph 69 even though the delegate has said 68 'the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects held three meetings to consider, among other things,' etc. and from a report mentioned before. These two references are to be found in 73 and we would

have put this after 68, it would become 68*bis* and then we could strike the remainder of the paragraph. We have already handed a written text into the Secretariat in English, maybe the Secretariat would be so kind as to read it out to us, in English.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Mexico for his proposals. Now the Secretariat will read out the text as it was proposed.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Paragraph 73 will be moved up so it becomes paragraph 68*bis*. Paragraph 69 would then read as follows 'The Committee noted that, on the margins of its fifty-third session, the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects had held three meetings to consider, among other things, the executive summaries from the workshop and report referred to in paragraph 68*bis*' it will then have a new number of course.

The CHAIRMAN Full stop and delete the rest. Are there any other comments on the proposal made by the distinguished representative of Mexico. To move paragraph 73 after 68 with the number 68*bis* and to reformulate paragraph 69, as it was read by the Secretariat.

If there are no comments, we consider the paragraph 68bis adopted.

Also we consider paragraph 69 adopted with the modifications proposed by Mexico and read by the Secretariat.

Paragraph 70. Are there any comments on paragraph 70? I see none.

Paragraph 70 is adopted.

Paragraph 71. Are there any comments on paragraph 71? I see none.

Paragraph 71 is adopted.

Paragraph 72. Are there any comments on paragraph 72? I see none.

Paragraph 72 is adopted.

Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests

of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union

Paragraph 74. Are there any comments on paragraph 74? I see none.

Paragraph 74 is adopted.

Paragraph 75. Are there any comments on paragraph 75? I see none.

Paragraph 75 is adopted.

Paragraph 76. Here 'Some delegations were of the view that the geostationary orbit' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 76 beginning with 'Some delegations were of the view'? I see no comments.

Paragraph 76 is adopted.

International space weather initiative

Paragraph 77. Are there any comments on paragraph 77? I see none.

Paragraph 77 is adopted.

Paragraph 78. Are there any comments on paragraph 78? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 78 is adopted.

Paragraph 79. Are there any comments on paragraph 79? I see none.

Paragraph 79 is adopted.

Paragraph 80. Are there any comments on paragraph 80? I see none.

Paragraph 80 is adopted.

Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

Paragraph 81. Are there any comments on paragraph 81? I see none.

Paragraph 81 is adopted.

Paragraph 82. Are there any comments on paragraph 82? I see none.

Paragraph 82 is adopted.

Paragraph 83. Are there any comments on paragraph 83? I see none.

Paragraph 83 is adopted.

Paragraph 84. Are there any comments on paragraph 84? I see none.

Paragraph 84 is adopted.

Paragraph 85. Are there any comments on paragraph 85? I see none.

Paragraph 85 is adopted.

Paragraph 86. Are there any comments on paragraph 86? China. The distinguished representative of China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Just a drafting suggestion. The number of the document should read L.277 rather than 277.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China for the correction he proposed for the paragraph. At the end of paragraph 86 the document is A/AC.105/L.277 we introduced 'L'. Are there any comments on paragraph 86? I see none.

Paragraph 86, with this correction, is adopted.

Paragraph 87. Are there any comments on paragraph 87? I see none.

Paragraph 87 is adopted.

Paragraph 88. Are there any comments on paragraph 88? Distinguished representative of China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Paragraph 88, we only invite permanent observers of the Committee to provide information on the activity. My suggestion is that we should add 'member States' before permanent observers. We looked very carefully at paragraph 87, we only invite member States to submit their views and comments on the terms of reference, so they do not have a chance to provide information on the activities. So, in paragraph 88, we propose that before the term 'the permanent observers' we will add 'member States and'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. The proposal made by China is to add at the beginning of paragraph 88 'member

States and' 'The Committee agreed to invite member States and the permanent observers of the Committee and the entities' and so on.

Are there any comments on paragraph 88 with the proposal made by China? The Russian Federation you have the floor.

Mr. E. CHERNUKHIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) By way of clarification, here is a question. Do member States not provide this information at present?

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation for his question. I propose to come back shortly to this paragraph. So, we suspend paragraph 88 for a short time.

Paragraph 89. Are there any comments on paragraph 89? I see none.

Paragraph 89 is adopted.

Paragraph 90. Are there any comments on paragraph 90? I see none.

Paragraph 90 is adopted.

Paragraph 91. Are there any comments on paragraph 91? I see none.

Paragraph 91 is adopted.

Paragraph 92. Are there any comments on paragraph 92? I see no comments.

Paragraph 92 is adopted.

We come back to paragraph 88. According to the procedures established, we start to invite member States as well. So, the proposed modification of paragraph 88 to add at the beginning 'member States and' 'The Committee agreed to invite member States and the permanent observers of the Committee' as proposed by China. Are there any comments on the proposed modification made by China to paragraph 88? I see none.

Paragraph 88 is adopted with the addition of 'member States and' proposed by China.

After paragraph 92, we had agreed on the proposal to include, as paragraph 92bis, paragraph 47 of the main document L.279. We have already adopted

to include here paragraph 49bis with the text of paragraph 47 from the main document L.279.

It is so decided.

Paragraph 93. Are there any comments on paragraph 93? China, please you have the floor.

Mr. X. YU (China) Paragraph 93, there is more than one delegation's expert view which was contained in this paragraph. We would propose to change 'The view was expressed' into 'Some delegations were of the view that'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China for the proposal. China proposes to start paragraph 93 with 'Some delegations were of the view that the work on the long-term sustainability' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 93 with the modification proposed by China? I see none.

Paragraph 93 is adopted.

Paragraph 94. Are there any comments on paragraph 94? I see none.

Paragraph 94 is adopted.

Paragraph 95. Are there any comments on paragraph 95? I see none.

Paragraph 95 is adopted.

Paragraph 96. Are there any comments on paragraph 96? I see none.

Paragraph 96 is adopted.

Paragraph 97. Are there any comments on paragraph 97? Distinguished representative of Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) With respect to paragraph 97, we would suggest removing the last bit after 'national regulatory regimes' and it should just read 'national regulatory regimes should be addressed'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada for the proposal of the modification of paragraph 97. In the last line of the paragraph the proposed modification is to read as 'The establishment of national regulatory regimes should be addressed.' Is there any other comment on paragraph 97 with the modification proposed by the

distinguished representative of Canada? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 97 with the proposed modification is adopted.

Paragraph 98. Are there any comments on paragraph 98? Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Paragraph 98 should be changed to clearly express what was said. The opinion was expressed that decisions related to this agenda item are the exclusive responsibility of member States of the Committee. That is all. It was something expressed by this delegation.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. You want to read paragraph 98 as 'The view was expressed that member states' ... I give the floor to the Secretariat to read the modified text.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The text will read as follows, paragraph 98. 'The view was expressed that decisions related to this agenda item was under the exclusive responsibility of member States of the Committee.'

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification. Is there any comment on the proposed text by Venezuela? I see none.

Paragraph 98, with the modifications proposed by Venezuela, is adopted.

Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Paragraph 99. Are there any comments on paragraph 99? I do not see any comment.

Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Sorry to intervene here, I just have a question. With regard to the amount of schedule available for the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee versus the Legal Subcommittee. Is there any means by which this Committee can reallocate days spent in the Legal Subcommittee to those days in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee?

The CHAIRMAN I give the floor to the Secretariat to give you an explanation.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Delegations will see in the final part of the draft report this afternoon, when it is available in Add.3, the reflection of decisions and the debate under organizational work, other matters, where we had extensive debate in the session on how to optimize and rationalize our work. So, the distinguished delegate of Canada you will see the paragraphs in that section and we made certain decisions in the session and then there were views expressed.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification. Are there any other comments on paragraph 99?

Paragraph 99 is adopted.

Paragraph 100. It is a long one, it includes the agenda of the Subcommittee.

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Paragraph 100, I just wonder whether the Secretariat can check subparagraph 8 (d) Long-term sustainability of outer space activities. The work for 2011 as reflected in paragraph - we should know which paragraph will be mentioned here.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. We will check now the number of the paragraph which should be included there.

I give the floor to the distinguished representative of China.

Mr. Y. XU (China) To simplify our work since I do not see that in the (____?) of the paragraph, we do have a clear idea of what will be the work for next year's session so perhaps we go back to last year's report, A/64/22. We have a multi-year workplan for this new agenda item that we have a clear understanding of what will be done in 2011. So I think that multi-year workplan will also apply to this year because (____?) we just change this (____?) here mentioned in last year's report.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. Yes, you are right, this is reflected in the last year's report on the workplan because the workplan was for two years, 2010-2011. We will modify here workplan as reflected in the A/64/22 and then the paragraph from last year's report.

Is there any comment on paragraph 100? I see none.

Paragraph 100, with the proposed modification at point 8 subparagraph (d), is adopted.

Paragraph 101. Are there any comments on paragraph 101? I see none.

Paragraph 101 is adopted.

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Sorry to take the floor again but I read this paragraph I still have some thoughts about the long-term sustainability working group because it seems to me that this working group did not have its own multi-year workplan. We only have one multi-year workplan for this new agenda item, so I am not sure whether we should mention that. Should we (____?) in accordance with the multi-year workplan. If my understanding is right that, only upon February next year then we can have a multi-year workplan for this long-term sustainability working group. Maybe we simply delete it in accordance with the multi-year workplan. Although we know that all the other working groups already have a multi-year workplan but for the long-term sustainability it is not the case.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. We (____?) on Monday afternoon the working group on the long-term sustainability held its first meeting within the Committee.

Distinguished representative of the USA has the floor.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Mr. Chairman our understanding is that there are multi-year workplans for each of the agenda items. Nuclear power sources, near-Earth objects and long-term sustainability. The reference in this paragraph 101, as we read it, is referring to those workplans that already exist, as opposed to a separate workplan that the working group might come up with, so perhaps there is a different way of phrasing this so it does not leave the reader with the impression that the long-term sustainability working group has already adopted its own multi-year workplan. The three working groups are operating under multi-year workplans that were agreed to by the Subcommittee and the full Committee.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the United States of America for his comment. China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) I just wonder whether we can draw your attention to last year's Scientific and Technical Subcommittee report, annex II, that is the report of the working group on the use of NPS in outer space, paragraph 8. That working group do have a multi-year workplan from 2010-2015 but that is not the workplan of agenda item that is a multi-year workplan of this working group, that multi-year workplan as approved by the Subcommittee and adopted by this COPUOS Committee so it is quite different. For the long-term sustainability I do not think that we have a multi-year workplan for this working group, there is a task for this working group for the next session in February.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. We could reformulate the phrase to be more understandable, which working group has a workplan and which do not.

I give the floor to the Secretariat to clarify the text of the paragraph.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) One way of solving this is of course not to specifically refer to any multi-year workplan in this paragraph, so the essence of this paragraph would only say that the Committee endorsed a recommendation that the working group on NPS, the working group on NEO and the working group on long-term sustainability and the working of the whole should reconvene at its forty-eighth session. So there is no reference to multi-year workplans in this particular paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN Is this agreeable to delegations? Are there any other comments on paragraph 101? I see none.

With the proposed modifications, paragraph 101 is adopted.

Paragraph 102. Are there any comments on paragraph 102? China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Paragraph 102 there are two slight amendments to this paragraph. The first one is in the last sentence 'that under the workplan of the Subcommittee' we should say 'and the workplan of the working group on the use of NPS in outer space of the Subcommittee'.

The second suggestion is at the end of this paragraph, besides mentioning paragraph 8 we should also mention paragraph 10 because paragraph 10 clearly asks the Committee to give two hours of its session of the Subcommittee to hold workshops. Besides paragraph 8, we should also mention paragraph 10.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China for his proposal and clarification.

So paragraph 102 will read as follows 'The Committee agreed that two hours of each session of the Subcommittee from 2011 to 2013 should be available for holding workshops under the workplan of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources of the Subcommittee on the item "Use of nuclear power sources in outer space" ' and at the end of the document it will be paras. 8 and 10. Is there any comment?

The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. E. CHERNUKHIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) We have no objection in principle to allocating sufficient time for these seminars and workshops. Taking into account the practical experience of events of that kind however, maybe we should not specify the number of hours, in terms of how many hours are set aside for such workshops. Maybe the Secretariat will propose a more neutral language. Just to say that sufficient time must be set aside for workshops.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. We have checked the previous documents.

Distinguished representative of Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I do not think that we should avoid deciding how much time will be set aside for workshops otherwise it might be confusing. I think it should stay the way it is written.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela.

I would like to inform the distinguished delegations that these two hours were decided by the Working Group on Nuclear Power Sources and it is included in the documents.

The Russian Federation has the floor.

Mr. E. CHERNUKHIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Once again this delegation has no objection in principle to holding this type of workshop, these important events. Still, based on our practical experience, the experience of these sessions and, in legal terms, if a session were to last for two hours and five minutes, one delegation might raise a point of order and object to procedural violations. That is why we suggest a more flexible approach, maybe not even two hours, maybe more if necessary and maybe less. In any case we will join the consensus in this room.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. I will clarify once again that these two hours were specifically mentioned by the Working Group on Nuclear Power Sources. They asked for this time, it is already included as two hours in previous documents. We just took the information from the documents and put it here and the Committee agreed to what they have proposed.

Are there any other comments on the formulation of paragraph 102? It is up to the working group to decide together with the Subcommittee if these two hours are two hours and five minutes or one and one-half hours, it is just an informal agreement between the Subcommittee and the working group.

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

Paragraph 102, as it is, is adopted.

Paragraph 103. Are there any comments on paragraph 103? I see none.

Paragraph 103 is adopted.

Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-ninth session.

Paragraph 104. Are there any comments on paragraph 104? I see none.

Paragraph 104 is adopted.

Paragraph 105. Are there any comments on paragraph 105? I see none.

Paragraph 105 is adopted.

Paragraph 106. In paragraph 106 we decided this would be included 'Costa Rica on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries'. Are there any comments on paragraph 106 with the proposed inclusion of 'Costa Rica on behalf of GRULAC'? I see none.

Paragraph 106 is adopted.

Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space

Paragraph 107. Are there any comments on paragraph 107? I see none.

Paragraph 107 is adopted.

Paragraph 108. Are there any comments on paragraph 108? China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) In paragraph 108, China would propose beside paragraphs 28 and 40 we should add a paragraph 31 of the A/AC.105/942. I will read paragraph 31 of this report of last year's Subcommittee, paragraph 31 reads 'The Subcommittee agreed that those international intergovernmental organizations that had not yet made such declaration should consider taking steps to encourage their members to adhere to the outer space treaties thereby enabling their acceptance of the (____?) and obligations under those treaties.' Since those (____?) quite important for us, we should mention that this Committee endorse the recommendations contained in paragraph 31.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. The distinguished representative of China proposed that the last line of paragraph 108 should make reference to A/AC.105/942, paras. 28, 31 and 40 and annex I, paras. 5-8. Is that agreeable for all delegations? Are there any other comments? I see none.

Paragraph 108, with the proposed modification by China, is adopted.

Paragraph 109. Are there any comments on paragraph 109? I see none.

Paragraph 109 is adopted.

Paragraph 110. Are there any comments on paragraph 110? Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) This paragraph reflects GRULAC statements, so I think one should say 'some delegations' rather than 'the view was expressed that'.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. The proposal made by Venezuela is to start the paragraph with 'some delegations' not 'the view was expressed'. Are there any comments on paragraph 110 with the proposed modification? I see none.

Paragraph 110 is adopted.

Paragraph 111. Are there any comments on paragraph 111? I see none.

Paragraph 111 is adopted.

Paragraph 112. Are there any comments on paragraph 112? I see none.

Paragraph 112 is adopted.

Paragraph 113. Are there any comments on paragraph 113? I see none.

Paragraph 113 is adopted.

Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law

Paragraph 114. Are there any comments on paragraph 114? I see none.

Paragraph 114 is adopted.

Paragraph 115. Are there any comments on paragraph 115? I see none.

Paragraph 115 is adopted.

Paragraph 116. Are there any comments on paragraph 116? I see none.

Paragraph 116 is adopted.

Matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union

Paragraph 117. Are there any comments on paragraph 117? I see none.

Paragraph 117 is adopted.

Paragraph 118. China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Just a drafting suggestion. At the end of this paragraph we should mention A/AC.105/942, paragraph 57, then go on with the annex because that paragraph is the endorsement of the report.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. The last line of paragraph 118 will include after the name of the paragraph, 942, paragraph 57, annex II, paragraph 11. Are there any other comments on paragraph 118 with the proposed modification? I see none.

Paragraph 118 is adopted.

Paragraph 119. Are there any comments on paragraph 119? I see none.

Paragraph 119 is adopted.

Paragraph 120. Are there any comments on paragraph 120? Distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) This is not only the view of one delegation, it is some delegations because I am one of the other delegations.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Is that agreeable to delegations to start paragraph 120 with 'some delegations expressed' and so on. Are there any other comments on paragraph 120?

Paragraph 120, with the proposed modification by Saudi Arabia, is adopted.

Paragraph 121. Are there any comments?

The Russian Federation please you have the floor.

Mr. E. CHERNUKHIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) My delegation would like to make a small stylistic change here, a drafting change, both in the Russian as well as the English text. Second sentence, after the reference to the 1983 and 1987 Legal Subcommittee meeting, with regard to the

determination, establishment of a border, before 'outer space' I think we should insert a reference to airspace as well. So this would read 'with regard to the establishment of a border between airspace and outer space at an altitude of 110 km'.

Further, it is not quite clear what we mean by 'innocent passage' in both languages as a matter of fact (____?) in Russian and 'innocent' in English. I think that fruit juice might prove innocent for example at least when it comes to Russian, it is innocuous. So I think that 'innocent' should be taken out and then we should keep going with the text 'of other States during space missions' and we suggest that 'during space missions' be struck and we should put in the wording that we find in many official documents i.e. 'through the airspace of other States in order to access near-Earth orbit and to de-access it' this would fully be in keeping with the Russian Federation position on this paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Russia. As I understand, the proposal was to modify the third line from the bottom of the paragraph and to read 'regarding the establishment of a border of the airspace at an altitude of 110 km and the right of passage of space objects to the airspace of outer space in order to access the near-Earth orbit and de-access it'.

Mr. E. CHERNUKHIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Yes, that is it.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any other comments? Professor Kopal, distinguished representative of the Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) In my recollection of these discussions on the then Soviet Union proposal of the border at the altitude of 110 km it was spelt out at that time at the altitude of 100/110 km and, if my memory is correct, this was also said by the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation during his statement on this particular issue.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic for the information he gave regarding the right formulation of the altitude. Is there any comment on this proposal?

Mr. E. CHERNUKHIN (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) At the outset I would like to thank our Czech colleague for his very careful consideration of this report and very careful scientific and technical details of it. Nonetheless, in this

particular instance, we prefer to just keep with the 110 km altitude indicated.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. Are there any comments on the proposed modification of the text by the Russian Federation read previously by me and keeping the 110 km without any modification in this paragraph? I see no objections.

Paragraph 121, with the proposed modifications, is adopted.

Paragraph 122. Here at the beginning it is 'some delegations were of the view that'. Is there any comment on paragraph 122? I see none.

Paragraph 122 is adopted.

Paragraph 123. Are there any comments on paragraph 123? Ecuador please, distinguished representative of Ecuador has the floor.

Mr. J. ROSENBERG (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I would like to make some comments on 123 and 124 if I may. These are paragraphs which reflect what was said by GRULAC so we should write 'some delegations' in these two instances.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Ecuador for the clarification. Paragraph 123 starting with 'some delegations expressed' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 123 with this modification? I see none.

Paragraph 123 is adopted.

Paragraph 124 starting as well with 'some delegations expressed the view' and so on. I see no comments.

Paragraph 124 is adopted.

Paragraph 125. Are there any comments on paragraph 125? Saudi Arabia please.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think 'the view' it has to be changed to 'some delegations' in 125 and 126 because a lot of countries especially from the developing countries ...

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished delegate of Saudi Arabia. So, paragraph 125 starting with 'Some delegations expressed the view' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 125 with this proposed modification? I see none.

Paragraph 125 is adopted.

Paragraph 126 beginning as well with 'Some delegations expressed the view' and so on. Is there any comment on paragraph 126 with this modification? I see none.

Paragraph 126 is adopted.

Paragraph 127. Are there any comments on paragraph 127? I see none.

Paragraph 127 is adopted.

Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space

Paragraph 128. Are there any comments on paragraph 128? I see none.

Paragraph 128 is adopted.

Paragraph 129. Are there any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 129 is adopted.

Paragraph 130. Are there any comments on paragraph 130? I see none.

Paragraph 130 is adopted.

Paragraph 131. Are there any comments on this paragraph? I see none.

Paragraph 131 is adopted.

Paragraph 132. Are there any comments on this paragraph 132? I see none.

Paragraph 132 is adopted.

Paragraph 133. Are there any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 133 is adopted.

Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment

Paragraph 134. Are there any comments? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 134 is adopted.

Paragraph 135. Are there any comments? Yes, China has a comment.

Please, distinguished representative of China.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Paragraph 135, besides mentioning paragraph 105 we should also mention paragraph 104. In that paragraph, the Subcommittee expressed its satisfaction with the participation of UNOOSA as observer in the negotiation sessions of UNIDROIT and agreed that the Office should continue participating in those sessions. We do hope that this Committee will endorse those recommendations.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China for his proposal. So, paragraph 135, at the end, will include paragraphs 104 and 105. Are there any other comments on this paragraph with this modification? I see none.

Paragraph 135 is adopted.

Paragraph 136. Are there any comments on paragraph 136? I see none.

Paragraph 136 is adopted.

Paragraph 137. Are there any comments on paragraph 137? I see none.

Paragraph 137 is adopted.

Capacity building in space law

Paragraph 138. Are there any comments on paragraph 138? I see none.

Paragraph 138 is adopted.

Paragraph 139. Are there any comments on paragraph 139? I see none.

Paragraph 139 is adopted.

Paragraph 140. Are there any comments on paragraph 140? I see none.

Paragraph 140 is adopted.

Paragraph 141. Are there any comments on paragraph 141? I see none.

Paragraph 141 is adopted.

Paragraph 142. Are there any comments on paragraph 142? I see none.

Paragraph 142 is adopted.

Paragraph 143. Are there any comments on paragraph 143? I see none.

Paragraph 143 is adopted.

General exchange of information on national mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures

Paragraph 144. Are there any comments on paragraph 144? I do not see any.

Paragraph 144 is adopted.

Paragraph 145. Are there any comments? I do not see.

Paragraph 145 is adopted.

Paragraph 146. Are there any comments on paragraph 146? I see none.

Paragraph 146 is adopted.

Paragraph 147. Are there any comments on paragraph 147? I do not see any comment?

Paragraph 147 is adopted.

Paragraph 148. I do not see any comments on paragraph 148.

Paragraph 148 is adopted.

Paragraph 149. The beginning is 'Some delegations were of the view that the space debris mitigation' and so on. Are there any comments on paragraph 149, starting with 'some delegations'? I see none.

Paragraph 149 is adopted.

Paragraph 150. Are there any comments on paragraph 150? I do not see any.

Paragraph 150 is adopted.

Paragraph 151. Are there any comments? Yes, Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I think that quite a few delegations spoke on this item of the agenda so I think we should say 'some delegations' here.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela. The proposal made by Venezuela is to start the paragraph with 'some delegations expressed the view that the Subcommittee should include' and so on. Is there any comment with regard to this paragraph with the proposed modification by Venezuela? I do not see any.

Paragraph 151 is adopted.

Paragraph 152. Are there any comments? I do not see any.

Paragraph 152 is adopted.

Paragraph 153. Are there any comments on paragraph 153? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 153 is adopted.

General exchange of information on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space

Paragraph 154. Are there any comments on paragraph 154? I do not see any comment?

Paragraph 154 is adopted.

Paragraph 155. Are there any comments on paragraph 155? I do not see any.

Paragraph 155 is adopted.

Paragraph 156. Are there any comments on paragraph 156? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 156 is adopted.

Draft provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Legal Subcommittee

Paragraph 157. Are there any comments on paragraph 157? I do not see any.

Paragraph 157 is adopted.

Paragraph 158. Are there any comments on paragraph 158? I do not see any.

Paragraph 158 is adopted.

Paragraph 159. Are there any comments on paragraph 159? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 159 is adopted.

Paragraph 160. Are there any comments? I do not see any.

Paragraph 160 is adopted.

Paragraph 161. Are there any comments? I do not see any.

Paragraph 161 is adopted.

Paragraph 162. Are there any comments? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 162 is adopted.

Before starting with Add.2 we will distribute Add.3 because it is ready for distribution, it took a long time to edit and translate into all languages but it is ready. I ask the Secretariat to distribute this first and then we go to Add.2 of our document.

Until the Secretariat distributes the document I give the floor to the Secretariat to give an answer to the distinguished representative of Switzerland regarding the funds of UN-SPIDER.

Mr. D. STEVENS (UNOOSA) Regarding the question about exactly the amount of funds from the United Nations regular budget that was made available to SPIDER. The figures for 2010, first of all for UN staff members we have three professional posts at the P4 level, it is \$523,800, additionally we have an amount to be used for fellowships, travel of experts from developing countries in the amount of \$57,100.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification with regard to funds for UN-SPIDER for the last year.

We start now with A/AC.105/L.279/Add.2.

Recommendations and decisions regarding the spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status

Paragraph 1. Are all delegations ready to start with Add.2? Are there any comments on paragraph 1? I see none.

Paragraph 1 of Add.2 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. Are there any comments on paragraph 2? I see none.

Paragraph 2 is adopted.

Paragraph 3. Are there any comments on paragraph 3, subparagraphs (a) (b) (c)? I see none.

Paragraph 3 is adopted.

Paragraph 4. Are there any comments on paragraph 4? I see none.

Paragraph 4 is adopted.

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.

Space and society

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, subparagraphs (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g). 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? 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.

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

Paragraph 17 is adopted.

Paragraph 18. Are there any comments on paragraph 18? Yes, distinguished representative of Nigeria has the floor.

Mr. A. ABIODUN (Nigeria) If there is no objection I would propose that we reflect the role of the World International Space Week Association in accomplishing this particular goal because they played a leading role in this (____?) and I am sure the Secretariat has a language for that.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Nigeria for the proposal. The Secretariat has the formulation for including the role of this Association here.

We postpone paragraph 18 for a few minutes until the Secretariat finds the right formulation.

I will pass to paragraph 19. Are there any comments on paragraph 19? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 19 is adopted.

Paragraph 20. Are there any comments on paragraph 20? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21. Are there any comments on paragraph 21? I do not see any.

Paragraph 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. Are there any comments on paragraph 22? I do not see any.

Paragraph 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23. Are there any comments on paragraph 23? I do not see any.

Paragraph 23 is adopted.

Paragraph 24. Are there any comments on paragraph 24? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 24 is adopted.

Paragraph 25. Are there any comments on paragraph 25? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 25 is adopted.

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

Paragraph 26 is adopted.

Now I give the floor to the Secretariat for paragraph 18.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Paragraph 18, at the end of paragraph 18 it could be added the following 'The Committee recognized the valuable

contributions made by member States of the Committee, the World Space Week Association and other organizations towards World Space Week'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the formulation of the text to be added to paragraph 18. Are there any comments on this formulation? I see none.

Paragraph 18, with the proposed modification, is adopted.

Space and water

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

Paragraph 27 is adopted.

Paragraph 28. Are there any comments on paragraph 28? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. Japan has the floor.

Mr. K. MIYAZAKI (Japan) This presentation should be moved to paragraph 3 of Add.3 because this presentation is on space and climate change.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Japan. The proposal is to move paragraph 29 to paragraph 3 of Add.3. We will remind you when we analyse Add.3.

Paragraph 29 will moved.

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 do not see any.

Paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Are there any comments on paragraph 32? I do not see any.

Paragraph 32 is adopted.

Paragraph 33. Are there any comments on paragraph 33? I see none.

Paragraph 33 is adopted.

Paragraph 34. Are there any comments on paragraph 34? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. Are there any comments on paragraph 35? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Now we analyse A/AC.105/L.279/Add.3.

Space and climate change

Paragraph 1. Are there any comments on the first paragraph? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. France has the floor.

Mr. L. SCOTTI (France) (*interpretation from French*) We are also speaking on behalf of Germany. On this paragraph, Germany and France made a joint statement and the fact that it was joint should be reflected. Either the two countries should be mentioned separately at the end ‘representatives of France and Germany made a joint statement on this item’ maybe that is the easiest solution.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of France. It is true France and Germany made a joint statement, we remove ‘France and Germany’ from the first line and we mention also ...

The Secretariat will give you the right formulation.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat understands as follows that ‘France, Germany’ in the first line should be moved. It will be moved to the end of the second line and would say ‘the representatives of France and Germany made a joint statement under this item’.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you France for the proposed modification of the paragraph and the Secretariat for re-phrasing the paragraph.

Are there any comments on paragraph 2 with the modifications proposed? I see none.

Paragraph 2, with this modification, is adopted.

Paragraph 3. I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Paragraph 3 will be modified so that it includes two presentations, the one by Indonesia that is reflected already and the presentation made by Japan that we moved from Add.2, paragraph 29.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification.

Paragraph 3 with the added information concerning the presentation made by Japan. Are there any comments on this proposed paragraph with this modification? I see none.

Paragraph 3, with this modification, is adopted.

Paragraph 4. Are there any comments on paragraph 4? I do not see any.

Paragraph 4 is adopted.

Paragraph 5. Are there any comments on paragraph 5? I do not see any.

Paragraph 5 is adopted.

Paragraph 6. Are there any comments on paragraph 6? I do not see any.

Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Paragraph 7. Are there any comments on paragraph 7? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 7 is adopted.

Paragraph 8. Are there any comments on paragraph 8? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 8 is adopted.

Use of space technology in the United Nations system

Paragraph 9. Are there any comments on paragraph 9? I do not see any.

Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Paragraph 10. Are there any comments on paragraph 10? I do not see any.

Paragraph 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11. Are there any comments on paragraph 11? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 11 is adopted.

Paragraph 12 with subparagraphs (a) (b) (c). Are there any comments on paragraph 12? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 12 is adopted.

Paragraph 13. Are there any comments on paragraph 13? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. Are there any comments on paragraph 14? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 14 is adopted.

Paragraph 15. Are there any comments on paragraph 15? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 15 is adopted.

Paragraph 16. Are there any comments on paragraph 16? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 16 is adopted.

Paragraph 17. Are there any comments on paragraph 17? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 17 is adopted.

Paragraph 18. Are there any comments on paragraph 18? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 18 is adopted.

International cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development

Paragraph 19. Are there any comments on paragraph 19? I do not see any.

Paragraph 19 is adopted.

Paragraph 20. Are there any comments?

Canada you have the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) In the end we did not make a statement on this agenda item. We had been on the speaker's list but then everything worked out fine.

The CHAIRMAN Canada proposed to delete 'Canada' from this paragraph.

Are there any comments on paragraph 20? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21 with subparagraphs (a) (b) (c) (d). Are there any comments on paragraph 21? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. Are there any comments on paragraph 22? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23. Are there any comments on paragraph 23? I do not see any.

Paragraph 23 is adopted.

Paragraph 24. Are there any comments on paragraph 24? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 24 is adopted.

Paragraph 25. Are there any comments on paragraph 25? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 25 is adopted.

Paragraph 26. Are there any comments on paragraph 26? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 26 is adopted.

Paragraph 27. Are there any comments on paragraph 27? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 27 is adopted.

Paragraph 28. Are there any comments on paragraph 28? I do not see any.

Paragraph 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. Are there any comments on paragraph 29? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 29 is adopted.

Other matters

Paragraph 30. Are there any comments on paragraph 30? I do not see any.

Paragraph 30 is adopted.

Paragraph 31. Are there any comments on paragraph 31? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Are there any comments on paragraph 32? I do not see any.

Paragraph 32 is adopted.

Proposed strategic framework for the programme on the peaceful uses of outer space for the period 2012-2013

Paragraph 33. Are there any comments on paragraph 33? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 33 is adopted.

Composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2012-2013

Paragraph 34. Are there any comments on paragraph 34? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. Are there any comments on paragraph 35? I do not see any.

Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Paragraph 36. Are there any comments on paragraph 36? I do not see any.

Paragraph 36 is adopted.

Paragraph 37. Are there any comments on paragraph 37? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 37 is adopted.

Paragraph 38. Are there any comments on paragraph 38? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 38 is adopted.

Paragraph 39, Nigeria has the floor.

Mr. A. ABIODUN (Nigeria) On paragraph 39, on behalf of the Africa Group I would like the Committee to note that the Africa Group intends to come up with a decision before the next meeting of the Committee, we regret that we could not do that at this session.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Nigeria on behalf of the Group of African States, I understand. Your proposal will be duly reflected in paragraph 39.

I consider adopted paragraph 39 reflecting the position of Nigeria on the election of a candidate from the African Group for the bureaux for 2012-2013.

Membership of the Committee

Paragraph 40. Are there any comments? I do not see.

Paragraph 40 is adopted.

Paragraph 41, Tunisia has the floor.

Ms. L. SIALA (Tunisia) (*interpretation from French*) Just to introduce a small correction to the French version. Replace the word '(____?)' by the word '(____?)' but this is just for the French version.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Tunisia. So the Secretariat will make the correction in the French version of paragraph 41. Are there any other comments? I do not see.

Paragraph 41, with the correction in the French, version is adopted.

Observer status

Paragraph 42. Are there any comments on paragraph 42? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 42 is adopted.

Paragraph 43. Are there any comments on paragraph 43? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 43 is adopted.

Paragraph 44. Are there any comments on paragraph 44? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 44 is adopted.

With regard to paragraph 45, we have agreed a text. Paragraph 45 will read as 'The Committee agreed 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 written information and that a decision on the application of the Association would be made by the Committee at that session.'

Is this formulation of paragraph 45 agreeable to you?

If there are no objections, paragraph 45 is adopted.

Paragraph 46. Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) My delegation would like to see what was agreed in the previous sessions reflected. To be more transparent and more clear we suggest eliminating the phrase 'in the future' and say 'The Committee agreed that' and then it will continue as it stands without the phrase 'in the future'. The future can mean tomorrow, in five years, in ten years, if we delete that phrase it will be very clear and it will be exactly as was stated.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela for his proposal. Are there any comments?

Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) We have a question with respect to the way ECOSOC grants recognition. Is it automatic or they have to decide? My second question would be, why would we want this body to delegate a decision to somebody else?

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. What I can tell you is it is not automatic, they analyse every NGO.

I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the United States.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Just one clarification. In our discussions yesterday did we also agree for a further step which is for the Secretariat to contact those that currently have observer status but have not yet applied to ECOSOC. I think that

was another action that we had asked the Secretariat to undertake, so that when we come back next year all of the observers will have been on notice that the Committee would like to know when they are going to apply or if not, to ECOSOC.

The CHAIRMAN I give the floor to the Secretariat for clarification.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) We did that exercise in 2008 upon a request by the Committee in the 2008 report. We will repeat that which means that the Secretariat is requested by the Committee to contact all of the permanent observers of the Committee that do not have consultative status and request information on the status of their application or the status why they have not become ECOSOC members and it is the same procedure that we did in 2008.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification.

Are there any questions regarding paragraph 46? China please.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Just to try to address the concerns voiced by the Canadian delegation and also go back to my proposal, which was seconded by Mexico at the last session, whether we should kindly ask the Secretariat to contact the NGO Committee of ECOSOC to verify the process of the condition of status of ECOSOC as to how long it takes or the procedure required for that. Maybe we can have a clear idea of how long it will take for NGOs applying for consultative status and make sure that the time framework is OK for them.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. Yes, you are right distinguished representative of China, in your statement you made this proposal and we will include it in a new paragraph 46*bis*.

So, is paragraph 46 agreeable as it is? Venezuela proposed that we delete 'in the future'. 'The Committee agreed that the observer status would be granted' and so on.

Are there any other proposals concerning paragraph 46 and the modification proposed by Venezuela? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 46, with the proposal made by Venezuela, is adopted.

Paragraph 46bis will be formulated by the Secretariat to reflect exactly what was asked before by the delegation of China.

Professor Kopal you have the floor.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) Mr. Chairman during that discussion yesterday my delegation also expressed its view and suggested that the requirement of the granting of consultative status with the Economic and Social Council should not be requested and that the decision upon the application for consultative status, that is observership in the our Committee, should depend only on the consideration of COPUOS which should be provided with full information about the qualification of the applicant. I would like to see this contribution reflected in the report.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the Czech Republic. The Secretariat will now formulate your request as it was done during the session. We will postpone the formulation of the paragraph for a little while.

Organizational matters

Paragraph 47. Are there any comments on paragraph 47? I see none.

Paragraph 47 is adopted.

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. Are there any comments?

Yes, the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr. N. SHIRAZI (Islamic Republic of Iran) Briefly, just a slight amendment. To add 'open-ended' before 'informal consultations' in the first line.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Iran. The proposal made by Iran is to add, in paragraph 51, 'open-ended'. Are there any comments on the paragraph.

Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I apologize Mr. Chairman but the Spanish here is terrible. Again I apologize but we are trying to follow it with great attention but I do not really understand very well and this is a matter of concern.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela. I ask the Secretariat to check the correct translation into Spanish of paragraph 51.

Paragraph 51 now reads 'The Committee recommended that open-ended informal consultations be held among interested member States' and so on.

Are there any comments on paragraph 51 with this modification and of course with the correct translation into Spanish? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 51 is adopted.

Paragraph 52. Are there any comments on paragraph 52?

Distinguished representative of China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) In paragraph 52, I have some difficulty in understanding the method of work. Looking at both English and Chinese we would prefer to use 'organizational matters' rather than 'method of work'.

Mr. Chairman, if I can make a suggestion. During yesterday's session I made a proposal that the Secretariat implementing those measures should be in close consultation with the Chairman but when I look at paragraph 48 that suggestion was not incorporated into that paragraph. I wonder whether it will be or it is implied that but we should make sure that the Secretariat should work closely with the chairmanship of both COPUOS and subsidiary committees to implement those measures. That is two suggestions but the second one I do need a clarification what is 'method of work'. If it means organizational matters we should mention organizational matters.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. With regard to paragraph 52, you propose to change the formulation as 'the Committee agreed to continue reviewing its organizational matters at its forty-fourth session in 2011'. Did I understand correctly?

Are there any other comments on paragraph 52 with the modifications proposed by China? I see none.

Paragraph 52 is adopted.

Now I give the floor to the Secretariat for comments on the paragraph that was proposed to be modified.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) Regarding paragraph 48 it could read as follows 'The Committee requested the Secretariat, in close consultation with the members of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, to implement measures to rationalize' etc.

The CHAIRMAN Is paragraph 48 agreeable for you, distinguished representative of China? Are there any comments on the proposed modification of paragraph 48? I see none.

With this modification, paragraph 48 is now adopted.

Paragraph 53. Are there any comments on paragraph 53? I see none.

Paragraph 53 is adopted.

Paragraph 54 with subparagraphs (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h).

Distinguished representative of Spain and then the distinguished representative of Germany has the floor.

Mr. A. NÚÑEZ VICANDI (Spain) Just a small change, 54(b) should read 'opening only one item at a time' instead of 'per meeting'.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Spain. Distinguished representative of Germany has the floor.

Ms. A. FROELICH (Germany) Paragraph 54(d) would it be possible to add 'Uploading statements on the website of the Office for Outer Space

Affairs in a timely manner' to add 'in a timely manner'.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Germany for her comment.

Paragraph 54, the proposals are. The proposal of Spain, subparagraph (b) 'opening only one item at a time' not 'per meeting'. The second modification asked by the distinguished representative of Germany in subparagraph (d) 'Uploading statements on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in a timely manner and the introduction of webcasts'.

Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) Those two recommendations are fine. The one we have concern about is (e) limiting the number of interventions by delegations under each agenda item. We would like to see debate on this more than prepared statements so for item (e) limiting the number of *a priori* or prepared interventions is proper but allowing us to have debate (____?) points of procedure, these need to be (____?).

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada. Do you have a specific formulation for subparagraph (e) that you propose?

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) I would just add limiting the number of prepared interventions rather than spontaneous.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada.

Distinguished representative of the United States has the floor.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Paragraph 54 is just an indicative list of proposals that members have made, it has not been fully agreed by the Committee. Therefore, I do not think that we have to make changes in order to reach consensus because we simply are not going to be able to do that. My delegation did make this particular proposal found in subparagraph (e) and our point was that we should limit the number of times a delegation intervenes under a particular item unless there is a point of procedure or clarification or something like that that is necessary. In one of our more recent subcommittee meetings we had a delegation intervene six or seven times under the general exchange of views, so we did not think that was a useful use of time and it really was not a debate in that case. These are just things that we can continue

to consider in the open-ended informal consultations but my delegation's preference would be to leave paragraph (e) as it is.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the United States of America.

Is this agreeable with you distinguished representative of Canada to leave it as it is?

I thank you distinguished representative of Canada.

Do you have any other comments on paragraph 54 with the modifications proposed by Spain and France? I see none.

Paragraph 54 is adopted.

Paragraph 55. Are there any comments on paragraph 55? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 55 is adopted.

Paragraph 56. Are there any comments on paragraph 56? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 56 is adopted.

Paragraph 57. Are there any comments on paragraph 57? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 57 is adopted.

Paragraph 58. Are there any comments on paragraph 58? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 58 is adopted.

Distinguished representative of the Czech Republic has the floor.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) Mr. Chairman, when we were speaking to additional provisions in the draft after paragraph 46, you decided to delay it until the exact formulation is prepared by the Secretariat and we already discussed the first one, the Chinese proposal for 46*bis*, but we have not discussed the proposal of the Czech Republic yet. May I kindly request ...

The CHAIRMAN Yes we have it ready. We will come to the proposal made by you to introduce it after paragraph 46*bis*. We prepare to introduce it, we will read it, after we adopt some other paragraphs first.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) Additional provisions could have been prepared at the same time!

The CHAIRMAN We will just pass to the next paragraph and at the end we add your paragraph.

Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the first session of the Committee and the fiftieth anniversary of human space flight

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. China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Very briefly, China would propose after paragraph 60 just add a new paragraph 'The Committee noted with appreciation the proposal by the Chairman of the Committee' because we have a paper CRP.13 which is the Chairman's proposal. So we should mention that.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. So we will introduce the paragraph 60*bis* with the proposal made by the Chair with regard to the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary.

We propose paragraph 60*bis* 'The Committee noted with appreciation' we put the name of the document and CRP.13 that includes everything connected with the celebration.

Is this agreeable for you?

Mr. Y. XU (China) Yes, I would like to see 'the Committee noted with appreciation a proposal by the Chairman of the Committee' titled and then the document number.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. The Secretariat has noted the exact formulation proposed by you, thank you very much.

Are there any comments on the paragraph proposed by China, 60*bis*? I do not see any comment.

We will introduce the paragraph 60bis as was requested by China.

Paragraph 61. Are there any comments on paragraph 61? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 61 is adopted.

Paragraph 62. Are there any comments on paragraph 62? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 62 is adopted.

Paragraph 63. Are there any comments on paragraph 63? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 63 is adopted.

Paragraph 64. Are there any comments on paragraph 64? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 64 is adopted.

Paragraph 65. Are there any comments on paragraph 65? I do not see any comment. The work of the Committee will start on 2 June, 1 June will be the celebration event.

Paragraph 65 is adopted.

Paragraph 66. Are there any comments on paragraph 66? I do not see any comment.

Paragraph 66 is adopted.

Future role and activities of the Committee

Paragraph 67. Are there any comments on paragraph 67? Canada has the floor.

Ms. A.-M. Lan PHAN (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) Sorry Mr. Chairman for having to go back a bit to the preceding paragraph before 67. Delegations were invited for a consultation meeting organized by OOSA on COPUOS exhibits 2011. This exhibit is going to be staged throughout the month as we understand it and I would be asking if this exhibit is part of the celebrations or not? If it is, then possibly the Committee should make specific mention of this in its report.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada.

Distinguished representative of Canada the Secretariat agrees to introduce your demand. The exhibition will be dedicated to the fiftieth anniversary of COPUOS and the first space flight. The event itself is the high level panel on 1 June. The Secretariat will add to paragraph 66 the view reflected by you.

Do you have any other comments distinguished representative of Canada?

Ms. A.-M. Lan PHAN (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) This is not a point of view that is expressed it is just a question that I wanted to put to the Secretariat about this exhibit. The Secretariat asked delegations to get organized, to possibly have stands, and if that is in connection with the celebration we would like the Committee to reflect very clearly in the paragraph that the Committee agreed that this exhibit would be taking place and would be part of the celebration events. I note what you have referred to in CRP.13 but nonetheless we would like to ask and be informed whether this is part of the general celebrations referred to.

The CHAIRMAN I give the floor to the Secretariat to formulate your proposal.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) It could read as follows, new paragraph 66bis 'The Committee noted with satisfaction the preparations undertaken by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in consultation with interested member States to organize a special exhibition to commemorate these anniversaries.'

The CHAIRMAN Is this formulation agreeable to you in a separate paragraph? Are there any comments on the new proposed paragraph 66bis?

Distinguished representative of Nigeria.

Mr. A. ABIODUN (Nigeria) How does the Secretariat intend to effect this announcement. You have done the preparation, are you going to invite the exhibits? Are you going to write to member States? What are you going to do exactly?

The CHAIRMAN I give the floor to the Director of the Office to clarify.

Ms. M. OTHMAN (OOSA) Last year we announced the proposal for holding an exhibition. We have sent out note verbales to all permanent missions to that effect. We have already had two or three, maybe three meetings since last year on the holding of the exhibition.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished Director of the Office.

Are there any other comments regarding the new paragraph 66*bis* and any kind of other information connected with this? I see none.

Paragraph 66bis is adopted.

Future role and activities of the Committee

Paragraph 67. Are there any comments on paragraph 67? I see none.

Paragraph 67 is adopted.

Paragraph 68. Are there any comments on paragraph 68? I see none.

Paragraph 68 is adopted.

Panel discussion during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

Paragraph 69. Are there any comments on paragraph 69?

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) My suggestion is that we replace 'agreed' with the word 'recommended' because it seems to me that whether the panel discussion should have this as a topic is up to the General Assembly Fourth Committee or we can decide it at this stage. So if we can decide it at a COPUOS level, we agree that, but it seems to me that it is up to the General Assembly to make the final decision on the title of the panel discussion. So just a clarification from the Secretariat whether we should agree or recommend it to the General Assembly.

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

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The very last paragraph of last year's General Assembly resolution 64/86, delegates that mandate to the Committee because the panel discussion in question will be organized and held on the first day when the Fourth Committee begins its deliberations of our agenda item, International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. The Secretariat has, for three years, prepared this panel discussion on the topics that are listed in paragraph 46 of last year's General Assembly

resolution, climate change, food security and global health. So, now it is a new topic to be prepared for, to be held on the first day of the General Assembly.

The CHAIRMAN The distinguished representative of Mexico has the floor.

Mr. S. CAMACHO LARA (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Just with a view to clarifying things. What is this panel organized in the Fourth Committee in the past, that was part of the reform presented by the Chairman of COPUOS for the consideration of the Fourth Committee on the subject of International cooperation. That was part of the Chairman's report. Maybe it would be more interesting and stimulating for the debate to have presentations other than just the oral report of the Chairman. Maybe this Committee should at least agree on the theme that would be presented in that panel.

The CHAIRMAN I give the floor to the Secretariat to explain.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The panel discussions that are referred to in the General Assembly resolution from last year, 64/86, refers to the specific panels held in three years on climate change, food security and global health and the Office for Outer Space Affairs has organized these panels, we have had speakers and they have had a full-fledged panel discussion with Powerpoint presentations and that has, in fact, stimulated a debate in the General Assembly Fourth Committee during our agenda item.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for the clarification.

The proposal made by the Secretariat is to keep the formulation of paragraph 69 'The Committee agreed that the panel discussions' in accordance with the approval of last year's General Assembly document.

Is that agreeable for you? Are there any other proposals concerning paragraph 69? I see none.

Paragraph 69 is adopted as it was previously formulated.

Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Committee

Paragraph 70. I would just remind delegates that in paragraph 70 does not include all administrative

points of the agenda they are only the substantive items that have to be considered at the session.

Paragraph 70. Are there any comments on paragraph 70?

Distinguished Professor Kopal.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) I appreciate that a compromise formulation was adopted by consensus by our Committee concerning the item, the future work of the United Nations but I believe that it should be also included in paragraph 70 because it is neither an administrative issue nor a question of procedure, it should be a substantive discussion. It should also be included here in this particular paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN Please specify once again.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) I appreciate that the agreement that was reached about the topic, the future role of the United Nations that is I think included in ..

The CHAIRMAN It is included in point 11 of the paragraph.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) Yes, excuse me, I overlooked it.

The CHAIRMAN China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China) Thank you for the clarification. Although I agree that those (____?) items concerning substantive items but my question is that, I looked very carefully at the past report of COPUOS and there was no mention of next year's provisional agenda. I am not sure whether from this session we will incorporate those (____?) in the report because I looked at all the past reports and they do not have the provisional agenda for the next year's session. I know that there are some delegations that want to know the provisional agenda but for me we have a very special commemorative anniversary next year, I am not sure whether we should incorporate those. If we start from this session we should have a provisional agenda I should think that we should all items not only substantive items because it is quite a new suggestion to have a provisional agenda for the next year's session. If there is no (____?) to have that I should think that we should delete that part. To go to the agreed practice of the report drafting because I looked at all the reports and they do not have the provisional agenda for next year.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. I just mention that a special event is a separate event, the work of the Committee will start on 2 June. The first day is a special event that is a separate point, it is not included here in the agenda in the substantive points, it just points out the specific important elements that we have to approach next year.

I give the floor to the Secretariat to make some more comments.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat has listened carefully to what the distinguished delegate of China said. In the discussions we had on this particular item, the Secretariat explained the procedures of the Committee which is that, the Committee in its report in the past has never had a provisional agenda. The General Assembly resolution, on the other hand, lists in paragraphs all the agenda items that are on the agenda for the next year's session of the Committee. So this is the practice, it is defined in the General Assembly resolution. It was a decision made in the debate that we should have the provisional agenda but the Secretariat is open for further reflections on this.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any other comments with regard to paragraph 70?

Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) Is this a new procedure that is going to be happening? So that we know, we have to take consideration of this because previously we did not have this. Now this is a new procedure, from now on is it going to be like this?

The CHAIRMAN It is up to delegations to decide. It was during the discussions that it was decided to include it.

The delegation of Romania has the floor.

Ms. S. MARIN (Romania) We do not see any problem to keep this paragraph while the Committee recommended so it is not even agreed or some other word so it is only a recommendation and compared with the experience of some other committees, yes, the other committees are taking care of the agenda of the next session, so it is not unusual. It could be new in COPUOS but it is not unusual, so we cannot see any problem to keep this recommendation even if it is a new paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Romania for her comment.

Distinguished representative of Colombia has the floor.

Mr. R. SERRANO CADENA (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Along the same lines as Romania's comments. I believe that here we could possibly expect more clarity from this paragraph with regard to the process. So if there is a provisional agenda referred to for the next session I think that this would be useful. CRP.15 I believe has been adopted by the Committee, right? So given the fact that the CRP has passed, this paragraph should figure in the report.

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

So, the proposal made by Romania was to keep this recommendation of the Committee because the agenda we adopted at the next session of the Committee, this is only the recommendation to include some substantive items and it is specified here in paragraph 70 which could be the substantive items.

Are there any other comments on paragraph 70?

Yes, Venezuela.

Mr. R. BECERRA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) What is important is not to mention this or not. What is important is what practice is going to be in the future. If we do this in the future, if we are going to be doing this then we should do this every single time. So the advisability of having this in or out for some it is important, some not, is secondary in comparison with setting the practice as from now. There are standards, there are rules, there is also the practical aspects involved, we have to see to what extent this is suitable for us these practices after all.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela for his intervention. During this session it was decided to include such recommendations for the Committee next year. If we decide to (____?) as a practice for future sessions it will be done. This was decided now for the next year, a procedure was not yet decided for future years. It was decided for the next year, we recommend some substantive items for the agenda. How it will be in the future is up to the Committee to decide during the next sessions. (____?) this agenda item could take it from next year, it is up to the Committee to decide next year how to approach the Committee's session in 2012 and so on or to establish a rule forever.

Are there any other comments on this specific paragraph 70? I see none.

Paragraph 70 is adopted.

Now I think we have to go back to the proposal made by the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic to include a paragraph and I give the floor to the Secretariat to formulate it.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) We go back to paragraph 46 in this document, on page 6, and the proposal is to have a new paragraph 46bis. I should also explain that the two additional paragraphs that had already been decided upon with a request to the Secretariat to take certain measures in contacting permanent observers and also ECOSOC Secretariat, they will come then as paragraphs 46ter and 46 whatever. Now we concentrate on this proposed new paragraph immediately after existing paragraph 46, I hope this is clear. I will read it now and it is a proposal by the distinguished delegate of the Czech Republic 'The view was expressed that the requirement for permanent observers to have a consultative status with ECOSOC should be suspended. That delegation was also of the view that the Committee should be fully competent to independently assess applications from non-governmental organizations.'

The CHAIRMAN Are there any comments on the proposed paragraph?

Saudi Arabia has a comment.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think I have said the same thing as the Czech Republic, it should be some delegations.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Yes, we will reformulate it with 'some delegations were of the view'.

Are there any comments on this proposed paragraph 46bis? I see none.

Paragraph 46bis, as was read by the Secretariat and at the beginning 'some delegations', is adopted.

Now we have the last paragraph of the document.

Schedule of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies

Paragraph 71. Are there any comments on paragraph 71?

Canada has the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) We have done some quick calculations here and note it was agreed that Scientific and Technical Subcommittee will meet for eight days, the Legal Subcommittee will meet for 10 days and that the Committee will meet for eight days. It is argued that the amount of work that is before us is greater in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee than in the Legal Subcommittee and therefore there should be more time allocated for the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee than for the Legal Subcommittee. We also note that 9 February is a Wednesday so that it is possible that a couple of days could be added to begin the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in which to do this work and that a couple of days can be taken from the Monday start of the Legal Subcommittee. So I wonder if others have shared the same views or not.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada for your view expressed.

Distinguished representative of the United States has the floor.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Mr. Chairman our distinguished colleague from Canada pointed out something very important but I am assuming that this is just a typographical error. The dates we agreed to were 7-18 February, 7 being a Monday when we met for 10 days in keeping with past practice so I am hoping that this is just a clerical error as opposed to something substantive.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the United States. I will clarify. It was decided during the previous Subcommittee that the dates are 7-18, it was just a mistake in this document. The dates of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee are from 7-18 February.

Are there any other comments?

Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. You have the floor.

Mr. P. BAINES (Canada) I still would like to hear the views on whether people think that the Legal Subcommittee needs 10 full days to do the work that its doing when the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

has a couple of additional agenda items that are complicated, that need to be worked on.

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

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) I fully agree with the remark made by the distinguished representative of the United States that it was (____?) and a typing error and that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee should be allocated the full two weeks for its session. At the same time, I have to say that the evaluation of the work of the Legal Subcommittee made by the foregoing delegations was for me not acceptable because there is a principle that both subcommittees, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee have been on equal footing and they were allocated by a decision about duration of all work of the Committee and its subcommittees by two weeks. Only the full Committee was allocated 10 days.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic. So the dates were proposed by the Subcommittee. This is a substantive debate and I do not think now we could develop a substantive debate on the dates and the length of the Subcommittees. We leave it to the Subcommittees to propose to the Committee the exact length of the session they need.

Is this agreeable for everybody?

Paragraph 71 with the typing correction from 7-18 February for the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, I see no other comments now.

Paragraph 71 is adopted.

So, paragraph 27 in the main document L.279.

Adoption of the report of the Committee

Paragraph 27 reads 'After considering the various items before the Committee at its' the Secretariat will fill in the correct numbers, how many meetings we had, on the period from June, 'adopted its report to the General Assembly containing the recommendations and decisions set out below.

Distinguished delegates, we analysed and adopted, paragraph by paragraph, all the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the General Assembly.

Can I take it that the Committee adopts the entire report as amended? I see no comments.

The report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the General Assembly, is adopted.

Distinguished delegates I now declare closed the 626th? meeting and the fifty-third session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.