

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Fifty-fourth session**

Unedited transcript

642nd Meeting

Friday, 10 June 2011, 10 a.m.

Vienna

Chairman: Mr. Dumitru Dorin PRUNARIU (Romania)

The meeting was called to order at 10.21 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN Good morning distinguished delegates. I now declare open the 642nd meeting of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

This morning we will continue our consideration of agenda item 16, report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

Distinguished delegates I would now like to proceed with the adoption of the report.

We stopped yesterday at A/AC.105/L.281/Add.1. We skip for the moment paragraph 26, we will review the paragraph in a very short time and then we will continue with paragraph 29 from the report of the Legal Subcommittee on its fiftieth session.

I give the floor to the distinguished delegate of France to propose the new form of paragraph 26 to be adopted.

Mr. L. SCOTTI (France) (*interpretation from French*) I believe that the text as proposed after some slight modifications, basically editorial changes, is now visible on the screen. I am not going to read it out aloud but basically paragraph 26 gives us a more condensed version of the original text as amended following the proposals of our friend from China. Then 26bis takes the sentence of paragraph 26 ____ (?) on the content regarding the adoption of a code of conduct. So this is something that reflects the views of the countries that felt that way about the adoption of

the code. Then, at the end of the first of the last line of paragraph 26, there is a footnote which refers to the site of the Council of the European Union which gives you access to the text in its entirety. So it is the first web address that you see there, the other one can be removed. Please delete the second reference, the longer one. We have to delete everything after 'or' in the footnote, the second web address. That is all, thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of France for the proposed revised paragraph 26 and the introduction of 26bis.

Are there any comments on the proposed version of paragraph 26 and 26bis.

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) China can go along with the proposal made by the distinguished delegates of France and we thank their efforts to accommodate our concerns on this paragraph. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished delegate of China.

Are there any other comments on the paragraph proposed by France. I see none.

Paragraph 26 is adopted.

Paragraph 26bis is also adopted.

In its resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that, beginning with its thirty-ninth session, the Committee would be provided with unedited transcripts in lieu of verbatim records. This record contains the texts of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages as transcribed from taped recordings. The transcripts have not been edited or revised.

Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, within one week of the date of publication, to the Chief, Conference Management Service, Room D0771, United Nations Office at Vienna, P.O. Box 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria. Corrections will be issued in a consolidated corrigendum.

V.11-83767 (E)



We proceed now with paragraph 29 from the same document referring to the report of the Legal Subcommittee on its fiftieth session.

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

Adopted.

Paragraph 30. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 31. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

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

Paragraph 32. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 33. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 34. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 35. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 36. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 37. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 38. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 39. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 40. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Now information on the activities of international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law

Paragraph 41. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 42. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 43. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Now 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 44. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 45. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 46. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 47. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 48. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 46. Algeria.

Mr. A. OUSSEDIK (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*) This is paragraph 49, on the second line, in accordance with the principle, on the basis of, would be better in French as it corresponds to the English text, on the basis of, in French. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Algeria. A correction in the French text, the Secretariat has taken note.

Any other comments on paragraph 49?

Saudi Arabia please.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think we have the same view so it is actually 'some delegations' not just only the view of one. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN So the proposal of Saudi Arabia is to start the paragraph with 'some delegations were of the view..'.
 Are there any comments on this proposal made by Saudi Arabia? I see none.

With this modification, paragraph 49 adopted.

Review and possible revision of the principles relevant to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space

Paragraph 50. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 51. I see no comments.

Adopted.

Paragraph 52. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 53. I see no comments.

Adopted.

Paragraph 54. I see no comments.

Adopted.

Paragraph 55. Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. F. VARELA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Generally speaking I will be referring to the Spanish language text. The paragraph is fine but the last sentence which states, a new legal instrument to define responsibilities of States, is not properly drafted. The responsibility is already clearly established in international treaties and the States are made responsible for the activities of their institutions in regard of the use of nuclear power sources in outer space. So as not to waste time, may I draft new language, in Spanish, and hand it in to the Secretariat so that we can then look at it in the room. 37 also has a problem but I am not going to repeat myself. Let me

please draft a text, hand it in to the Secretariat and then we can continue.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. So you do not have any problem with the English text, just with the Spanish formulation. You have problems only with the Spanish formulation. I understand.

Mr. F. VARELA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) The same applies to English I am afraid, because the real concept is to generate international mandatory norms for the uses of nuclear power sources and not to define the responsibility of States. The responsibility of States is clearly stipulated in the treaties, so what we want to say obviously is that international norms associated with the use of nuclear power sources should be the subject here. I will try to draft something and let us not waste time perhaps we can come back to that later.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela. We skip the adoption of paragraph 55 until Venezuela comes with a text to be proposed to the session.

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

Paragraph 56. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 57. China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) Very briefly, China would propose, after the word 'noted' we add 'with appreciation'. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN You mean paragraph 56? 57, yes that is right. So the proposal made by China is for paragraph 57 and it reads 'the Committee noted with appreciation ...'.

Any comments on the proposal made by China? I see none.

Venezuela, is paragraph 57 OK with you? Because you said that you had some observations for paragraph 57 as well, when you spoke about 55.

Mr. F. VARELA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Sorry, there must have been a

misunderstanding perhaps interpretation. I was referring to 36.

The CHAIRMAN Paragraph 36! That was already adopted?

Mr. F. VARELA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes, indeed it was adopted but I was waiting for this paragraph because I did not want to repeat it twice, the same language that we would possibly envisage for 55 should also go into 36 because it is the same drafting mistake. The concepts are generally well expressed so we do not want to modify the spirit of the paragraph, it is the language in 36 and 55, that was why I was waiting until we got to 55 so as not to waste time.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela.

Paragraph 57 with the modification proposed by China is adopted.

Capacity building in space law

Paragraph 58. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 59. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 60. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 61. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 62. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 63. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

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

Paragraph 64. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 65. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 66. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 67. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 68. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 69. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 70. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 71. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

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

Paragraph 72. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 73. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 74. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee

Paragraph 75. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 76. Here I have a comment on paragraph 76. On regular items the first point will be

election of the chairman and then the subsequent other points that are already included here.

Paragraph 76 the first point will be, election of the chairman and then the other ones already included here.

Distinguished representative of the Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) What about the vice-chairman or vice-chairpersons? I believe it should be better 'election of the bureau'.

The CHAIRMAN Distinguished representative of the Czech Republic this refers only to the Legal Subcommittee, it is not the Committee. When it is about the Committee we write bureau.

Any other comments on paragraph 76? I see none.

With the modification proposed by me, paragraph 76 is adopted.

Paragraph 77. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 78. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 79. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Venezuela, are you ready with the proposal for paragraph 55? Or should we continue with another document and come back?

Mr. F. VARELA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Mr. Chairman, I am also trying to translate it into English to then give you the full proposal in Spanish and in English. I am sorry for the delay, just an extra minute or so and I am sure I can hand it to the Secretariat.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Venezuela.

Distinguished representative of France has the floor.

Mr. L. SCOTTI (France) (*interpretation from French*) In the document Add.1, we have missing in the part that refers to the Legal Subcommittee, as I pointed out to the Secretariat yesterday, a portion that describes the discussion we had in the plenary on organizational matters. I had yesterday put it to the Secretariat in the form of a paragraph to reflect the statement made by my delegation. Do you want me to read it now in English? Or do you already have it and may we put it up on the screen?

The CHAIRMAN I give the floor to the Secretariat.

Mr. S. NEGODA (Secretariat) We noted this information relevant to the discussions about methods of work of the Legal Subcommittee and so far we have included it in Add.6 to the report when it goes to other matters, global discussions. So please have a look at Add.6 once it is distributed and then we can discuss.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for this information.

Are there any comments?

We go on with the next document to be adopted and wait for the formulation of the proposal of Venezuela for paragraph 55 of this document and then we will adopt the full document, Add.1

So I propose we go on with Add.3 of this document as long as Add.4 that we already started to discuss yesterday, we are still waiting for the formulation in Russian by the Russian Federation.

We now analyse and adopt, paragraph by paragraph A/AC.105/L.281/Add.3. Recommendations and decisions.

Implementation of the recommendations of the third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Do you have this document before you?

Paragraph 1. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 2. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 3. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 4. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 5. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 6. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 7. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 8. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 9. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
on its forty-eighth session

Paragraph 10. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 11. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 13. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Activities of the United Nations Programme on Space
Applications

Paragraph 14. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 15. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 16. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 17. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 18. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

[para. 19 not mentioned]

Paragraph 20. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 21. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 22. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 23. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 24. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 25. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 26. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 27. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 28. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 29. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 30. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 31. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Regional and interregional cooperation

Paragraph 32. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

International satellite system for search and rescue

Paragraph 33. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 34. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 35. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment

Paragraph 36. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 37. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 38. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 39. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 40. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Space debris

Paragraph 41. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 42. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 43. Any comments?

Switzerland has the floor.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) (*interpretation from French*) I am sorry for interrupting this very good pace that you have. Here it is the translation into French of IADC, I think that this Committee brings together space agencies and I was therefore wondering whether it would not be better to have inter-agency instead of inter-institutional. It would be the Interagency Coordination Committee in French but I do not know whether this is officially acknowledged in French also.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Switzerland for your comment. It is about the French translation of Interagency Space Debris Coordination Committee. The Secretariat will take note and we will check.

Any other comments on paragraph 43? I do not see any.

Adopted.

Paragraph 44. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 45. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 46. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 47. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 48. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 49. Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think for 48 and 49, we have expressed ourselves on that behalf and I think it is 'some delegations' not just only one. In both 48 and 49.

The CHAIRMAN In 48 it is 'some delegations were of the view'.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) Sorry, 49 and 50.

The CHAIRMAN So the proposal of Saudi Arabia is in paragraph 49 to change 'the view was expressed' with 'some delegations were of the view'.

Any comment on the proposal made by Saudi Arabia? I see none.

Paragraph 49 with the proposed modification is adopted.

Paragraph 50. The same thing proposed by Saudi Arabia instead of 'the view was expressed' with 'some delegations were of the view that'.

Any comment on paragraph 50 with the proposed modification by Saudi Arabia? I see none.

Paragraph 50 is adopted.

Space-system-based disaster management support

Paragraph 51. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 52. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 53. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 54. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 55. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 56. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 57. Canada has the floor.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) We believe that there is no consensus where we have the suggestion from the German delegation, this is the position of one delegation. I think that if this were to be reflected as the opinion of the Committee itself, this could reduce the amount of resources that go to other activities undertaken by UNOOSA and that would be namely to paragraph 19 that we have already adopted that already mentioned the precarious state of the resources for the Office. We would go back to the principle that prevailed at the beginning of UNSPIDER which called for voluntary contributions from member States. Now we are living in a period of financial straits for some countries, in fact many countries, we do not want the Committee to adopt a proposal that would give rise to an increase in the regular budget of the United Nations for all member States.

I would propose two amendments to this paragraph and I will be referring to the English text. In the second line instead of 'agreed' we would substitute that with 'recognized'. Afterwards, in the third line in the English text after 'considered providing' we would add 'on a voluntary basis consistent with UN resolution 65/97'. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of Canada.

The distinguished representative of Germany has the floor.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) I think the formulation as it stands now is not exaggerating the precarious situation and it is not any obligation whatsoever for any particular country to finance anything. As it stands now, it reflects very well the discussion we had and also it reflects the letter that will be printed afterwards and be available on the Internet of Ms. Othman she, and I quote her, said 'we do need however to seek the extension of these commitments' and another quote 'if indeed adequate financial support for the UNSPIDER programme does not materialize'. There is a risk that the sustainability, which is mentioned later and I would also when it comes to paragraph 59, suggest a new wording. With a view to those concerns it is proper to say that the Committee agreed that States should consider. That means if Canada and other delegations, I must include Germany in this respect too, consider it but whether we can do it is just another question, it is never wrong to consider something especially in cases of need.

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

Mr. J. CHOINARD (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) I am not going to repeat the statement that I have just made but 'agreed' is something that is very strong and we do not agree to the usage of that term. We would recommend the use of the term 'recognized' and then afterwards, in the English version, I do not have the French version in front of me but in English, the language is very strong 'member States should consider providing the programme with the necessary...' it has nothing to do with the notion of voluntary contributions which is at the very origin of this UNSPIDER as enshrined in UN General Assembly resolution. I would suggest that we go back to 65/97 and lift that language as it stands, if that is necessary. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any comments on the proposal made by Canada?

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Mr. Chairman, my delegation can support the proposed amendments to paragraph 57 made by the distinguished delegate from Canada, I think that captures better the discussions that we have had over the past year concerning SPIDER and the resources made available to it. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the United States.

Are there any other comments on the proposed modification?

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) Although we can be flexible to the proposal made by our distinguished delegate of Canada but we look to the General Assembly resolution 65/97, there we used 'encouraged' it is not only 'consider' _____(?) on a voluntary basis. It is more strong than 'consider'. Perhaps we want to mention 'on voluntary basis'. 'The Committee noted _____(?) and recognized that member States should be encouraged' rather than 'considered', that is the language we used last year in the General Assembly although we can be flexible, we would be more happy to stand with the current text. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China.

Any comments on the proposal made by Canada with the modification proposed by China.

Germany has the floor.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) I support the Chinese delegate.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you very much.

Canada has the floor.

Mr. J. CHOINARD (Canada) Then do I understand that the wording would be 'should encourage providing the voluntary basis consistent with UN resolution 65/97, the programme with the necessary ..' should that be the wording then?

The CHAIRMAN Yes, distinguished representative of Canada, it is what the distinguished representative of China proposed.

Paragraph 57 will read as follows,

The Committee noted the proposed workplan for the UN-SPIDER programme for the biennium 2012-2013, and number of the document, and recognized that Member States should be encouraged providing, on a voluntary basis consistent with the UN resolution 65/97, the necessary additional resources to ensure that greater support could be provided to Member States by UN-SPIDER and its regional support offices.

Are there any other comments on this proposed modification?

Switzerland has the floor.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) We are not sure to understand very well what is meant in this paragraph. In this paragraph there is a mention of 'necessary additional resources'. Are these additional resources necessary to accomplish the workplan proposed in CRP.16? Our understanding is that the proposed workplan could be accomplished with the resources actually committed by voluntary contributions. So we would like to understand this paragraph as meaning that additional resources are necessary to ensure greater support and, if it is really the way this paragraph is meant, then we would propose to split this paragraph into two paragraphs, having the first one ending after the mention of CRP.15 and then start a new paragraph which would be the proposed text by other delegations.

The CHAIRMAN So you would propose to stop the paragraph after CRP.16 and then start a new sentence or a new paragraph?

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) A new paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN And the new paragraph stating that, the Committee recognized that member States should be encouraged providing, on a voluntary basis consistent with the UN resolution 65/97, the programme with the necessary additional resources to ensure that greater support could be provided to Member States by UN-SPIDER and its regional support offices.

Is this what you propose?

But this is the same thing just expressed in two paragraphs!

The US has the floor.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Actually our distinguished delegate from Switzerland has a very good point. The point is that the proposed workplan for 2012-2013 can be implemented with the existing resources through the regular budget as well as through voluntary contributions so we do not want to leave the impression that more is needed to implement the workplan. There are two very different ideas, so by splitting them we recognize that the current workplan can be implemented within the existing resources that we have and, to provide greater support in the future, voluntary contributions should be considered by member States.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you. Distinguished representative of Canada has the floor, then Germany.

Ms. A. PHAN (Canada) We would like to support both the proposal made by Switzerland and the US.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) I am afraid that the present situation in SPIDER cannot be taken for granted. There are some people working there on a temporary basis and the financing of the personnel as we have it now is not guaranteed. I guess that the formulation as it stands in the document is right, additional resources are necessary indeed.

The CHAIRMAN China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) I do wonder whether we have a clear picture on the future development of UNSPIDER programme. Some delegations believe that the biennium workplan 2012-2013 can be implemented through the regular budget as well as other ____ (?). It seems to me it is not so clear at this stage because the information we get from the UNOOSA is that the regular budget cannot be ____ (?) to support UNSPIDER for the next two years, that is the information we get. So normally the workplan shall be implemented on the basis of voluntary contributions so we do think the links between these two very important ____ (?) the workplan as well as on the voluntary basis contributions from member States who support the implementation of the workplan. We hope that we can keep that clear. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China. Are there any objections to keeping one paragraph with the changes made by Canada with recognize, encourage, voluntary basis, and so on? Are there any problems for delegations that proposed to split the paragraph in two? To keep one paragraph with the formulation proposed by Canada.

US has the floor.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) We would be prepared to leave the paragraph as amended by Canada but I want a clarification. The workplan that we have noted for 2012-2013, which OOSA will work from, that plan is fully funded, correct? Because if it is not, then we have a problem because it will create a PBI in the General Assembly which we cannot accept.

The CHAIRMAN OOSA just confirmed that the plan is fully funded. Ms. Othman ensures us that the plan is fully funded.

Do you agree to keep the paragraph this way?

Canada please.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) I think with the declaration from the Secretariat that the programme is fully funded clearly calls for demarcation between the first sentence and the remainder of that paragraph as proposed by Switzerland and, accordingly, I would certainly endorse the Switzerland proposal to split the two paragraphs in 57 and 57bis because that is not the same fact. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any comments on the last proposal made by Switzerland and sustained by Canada? I see none.

Then we will split paragraph 57 as follows.

The Committee noted the proposed workplan for the UN-SPIDER programme for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/AC.105/2011/CRP.16).

Then, paragraph 57bis 'The Committee recognized that member States should be encouraged providing, on a voluntary basis consistent with the UN resolution 65/97, the programme with the necessary additional resources to ensure that greater support could be provided to member States by UNSPIDER and its regional support offices'.

Is this agreeable for all delegations, this formulation into two paragraphs?

UK has the floor.

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Just a small question whether you can perhaps read out the second paragraph again because I am not sure in English that it quite makes grammatical sense.

The CHAIRMAN Paragraph 57bis 'The Committee recognized that member States should be encouraged to provide the programme with the necessary additional' and so on. Is this OK?

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) This is OK when you read it like that.

The CHAIRMAN OK.

Paragraph 57 is adopted.

Paragraph 57bis with the text just read, is adopted.

Paragraph 58. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 59. Germany has the floor.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) When we read 59 which starts with 'the view was expressed' that is the least possible concern one could formulate in SPIDER. I think this does not properly reflect the special session we had, the letter of our Minister, and I would therefore suggest to formulate the following, 'The Committee noted with concern that'. It is reflecting and the consequences are open to everybody

but it is more corresponding to the situation in which we are in. I can eventually suggest that the next phrase can be deleted because it is a consequence of the concern we have here.

The CHAIRMAN So you propose?

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) The proposal is to replace 'the view was expressed that' by the formulation 'the Committee noted with concern that'.

The CHAIRMAN And then 'by relying on voluntary contributions alone'?

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) Well, it could stand as it is, as a compromise one could delete the last phrase.

The CHAIRMAN 'It was suggested' that one to be deleted?

So the proposal made by Germany sounds like this 'The Committee noted with concern that, by relying on voluntary contributions alone, the UNSPIDER programme might lack long-term sustainability.'

Canada has the floor.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) The Canadian delegation would prefer the sentence to begin with 'some delegations noted that' or 'it was the view of some delegations that' but not necessarily 'the Committee' expressing this concern.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada.

Saudi Arabia has the floor.

Mr. M. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia) I think in 57 we have recognized that member States should be encouraged. So I think 59 there is no need in 59.

The CHAIRMAN Germany has the floor.

Mr. T. PFANNE (Germany) I see a need for 59 because there we have the word 'sustainability'. In 57 and 57bis we only speak of 'greater support' but the risk that the programme dies is not really expressly addressed. So I think it is of grave concern, for us at least and some other nations, that the programme could lack sustainability and will die and we are a little bit

afraid and therefore the term 'sustainability' is very dear to us.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished delegate of Germany.

So the last proposal, corrected by Canada, sound like this 'some delegations expressed that by relying on voluntary contributions alone, the UNSPIDER programme might lack long-term sustainability.' and delete the rest of the paragraph.

Are there any comments on this proposal? I see none.

Paragraph 59 with the proposed modifications is adopted.

Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems

Paragraph 60. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 61. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 62. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 63. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 64. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 65. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 66. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 67. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 68. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

Paragraph 69. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 70. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 71. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 72. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 73. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 74. We received a proposal from Venezuela.

Venezuela has the floor.

Mr. F. VARELA (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) We have submitted a slight amendment to the Secretariat in writing and, in order not to waste time, I would just ask the Secretariat to read out this one word change that we have suggested. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Yes, distinguished representative of Venezuela, the word proposed to be changed is in the fourth line the word 'including' change with 'specially in'. So, instead of 'including terrestrial orbits' 'specially in terrestrial orbits'.

Are there any comments on the proposed modification by Venezuela?

Are there any other comments on paragraph 74? I do not see any.

Paragraph 74 with the proposed modification by Venezuela is adopted.

Paragraph 75. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Near-Earth objects

Paragraph 76. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 77. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 78. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 79. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 80. Mexico has a comment.

Mr. S. CAMACHO LARA (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) I merely want to ask whether we could include a sentence to reflect the fact that, in addition to the fact that we had two meetings, I also told the Committee that the Action Team would be organizing a meeting in Pasadena, California, for the purpose of, *inter alia*, discussing terms of reference and here I will switch to English ‘mission planning and operations group’. This is generic of course, it is not more specific, it is just one sentence. I gave a lengthy explanation to give you the context but it is just a short sentence, of course subject to the agreement of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN Are there any comments on the proposal made by Mexico to include one more sentence stating the fact that the Action Team will organize a meeting in Pasadena, California, and so on?

I see no comments, the Secretariat will include that sentence in paragraph 80.

Paragraph 80 with the sentence proposed by Mexico is adopted.

Paragraph 81. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 82. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 83. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

International Space Weather Initiative

Paragraph 84. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 85. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 86. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 87. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 88. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

We will just skip one of the paragraphs until the adoption of the terms of reference.

Paragraph 89. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 90. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 91. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Now we will skip for a moment paragraph 92, as the Russian delegation have some difficulties in the translation of the English text and we will come with the proposed corrected translation into English a little bit later.

Paragraph 93. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 94. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 95. In this paragraph there is a proposal to include at the number of the document A/AC.105/2011/CRP.15 and Add.1 and then annex II will be adopted later. We just refer here to annex II.

Are there any comments on paragraph 95 adding Add.1 and having in mind that annex II will be adopted, it is just a reference to annex II not to the content of the annex. Are there any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 95 is adopted.

Paragraph 96. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 97. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 98. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 99. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 100. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 101. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 102. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 103. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 104. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 105. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Now we proceed with the adoption of the paragraph included in the draft provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Paragraph 106. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 107 will include the agenda, the first point, election of the Chair, as we did for the Legal Subcommittee. So the first point will be, election of the Chair, and then the other ones included in paragraph 107. Are there any comments on this paragraph?

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) We do agree with your adding an item to this list but we have comments on (d) of subparagraph 8, whether we propose now or wait until you get a consensus on the election of the chairman.

On (d) of subparagraph 8, the contents in brackets was copied from the Scientific and Technology Subcommittee report but since we have to make a decision during this session perhaps we should replace this part with the following which was found in the terms of reference and makes a lot of work which will be adopted later but I think that is paragraph 23 of annex II that is work for 2012. Maybe we can ask the Secretariat to think about that and come up with a new version of those workplan. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of China. So the proposal was to replace in paragraph 107, point 8(d), the text that will be ...

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) In this particular case it would be the reference to work for 2012 as reflected in paragraph 23 of, and then when we have adopted the terms of reference, it will be then the reference to the terms of reference in annex II of this report. So it will be appropriately reflected there.

The CHAIRMAN So the Secretariat will reflect properly in accordance with what we will adopt in annex II, paragraph 23, this content for 8(d).

Are there any other comments on paragraph 107 with the amendment that the Secretariat will include the right reference at 8(d)? I see none.

Paragraph 107 is adopted with the amendment that the Secretariat will include the right text at 8(d) in accordance with annex II, paragraph 23.

Paragraph 108. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 109. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 110. China.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) We do have comments on the last sentence of this paragraph that is on page 13. We all know that we agreed that, during the next year's COPUOS session, there will be a ceremony of the fortieth anniversary of the launch of Landsat-1 but we wonder whether we should have another ceremony during the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. According to my memory, during this year's Scientific and Technical Subcommittee we were supposed to hold a ceremony during the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of next year though we mention it here. I think we agreed that there will be _____(?) next year's COPUOS session perhaps we just simply delete mention to Landsat-1 because it will not necessarily happen during the Subcommittee session. So we just end it 'The symposium should target the contribution of the Committee to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.' Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished delegate of China. So the proposal made by China, taking into account the symposium, would be in the framework of the full Committee, is to stop the last phrase right after 'the Committee to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development' and to delete 'and should include observance of the fortieth anniversary' and so on.

Are there any comments on the proposed modification by China?

I see no comments on paragraph 110, that will end with a full stop after sustainable development, deleting everything that follows after.

Paragraph 110 with this proposed modification is adopted.

Space and society

Paragraph 111. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 112. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 113. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 114. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 115. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 116. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 117. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 118. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 119. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 120. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 121. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

So we will come back to Add.3 when we have the terms of reference for the long-term sustainability ready and go back to Add.1 when we have the two modifications proposed by Venezuela.

I give the floor to the Secretariat to read the text.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The Secretariat is referring to Add.1, paragraph 36. There is a proposed amendment by the distinguished delegate of Venezuela. The second last line will read as follows, 'To humanity and strengthen the responsibility of States in space activities carried out by both governmental and non-governmental entities.' So after strengthen, what is currently in 36 should be replaced by the following, 'the responsibility of States in space activities carried out by governmental and non-governmental entities'. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for reading out the modification of paragraph 36 proposed by Venezuela.

Are there any comments on the proposal made by Venezuela to amend paragraph 36? I see no comments.

We adopt paragraph 36 of Add.1 to L.281.

Now we go with paragraph 55.

I give the floor to the Secretariat to read the paragraph out.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) There is a proposal made by the distinguished delegate of Venezuela for an amendment to paragraph 55 and I am now going to read the third last lines of that paragraph starting with implementation, so the proposed amendments read as follows 'implementation of the legal instruments and the development of new legal instruments related to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space'. So 'existing' should be deleted and 'to define the responsibility of States with regard' should be replaced by 'related to'. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for reading out the text as proposed by Venezuela.

Are there any comments on the proposed modification of the text? I do not see any comments.

Paragraph 55, amended by Venezuela, is adopted.

Now we can adopt the A/AC.105/L.281/Add.1. Are there any comments on the full document adopted already paragraph by paragraph? I see none.

We adopt this document.

The full adoption of Add.3 will follow after the adoption of the terms of reference for long-term sustainability, we now go to Add.5.

So you have in front of you A/AC.105/L.281/Add.5, recommendations and decisions.

Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status

Paragraph 1. Are there any comments on paragraph 1 of Add.5? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 2. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 3. India has the floor.

Mr. S. SHIVAKUMAR (India) The presentation on ResourceSat-2 we made on general exchange of views and not under spin-off benefits, so it can be moved to that section.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you very much distinguished representative of India. So we will delete the presentation made by a representative of India, ResourceSat-2.

Paragraph 3, the following presentation, not presentations, (a) Chilean Space Agency and so on.

Any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 3 with this modification is adopted.

Paragraph 4. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 5. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 6. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 7. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 8. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 9. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Space and water

Paragraph 10. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 11. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12. (a) (b) (c) about presentations.
Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 13. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 14. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 15. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 16. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 17. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 18. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Space and climate change

Paragraph 19. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 20. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 21. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 22. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 23. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 24. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 25. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 26. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 27. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 28. Portugal has the floor.

_____ (Portugal) It is just that this delegation expressed the view that the special report of the Interagency Meeting on Outer Space Activities on the Use of Space Technology within the United Nations System to address Climate Change Issues which is titled Space and Climate Change was referred to as an important contribution and also some comments regarding the content of this report were also made. I am not sure if this is the right place to include this but I think it would be interesting to have a reference to this document.

The CHAIRMAN .. Secretariat because there is included in another part of the report.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) I draw the attention of the delegation of Portugal to the next session the use of space technology in the UN system, paragraph 36 of this document. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished delegate of Portugal.

So, paragraph 28. Are there any comments? I do not see any.

Adopted.

Paragraph 20. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 30. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 20. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Use of space technology in the United Nations system

Paragraph 31. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 32. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 33. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 34. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 35. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 36. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 37. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 38. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 39. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 40. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Do I take it that A/AC.105/L.281/Add.5 could be adopted.

We adopt Addendum 5.

I ask the distinguished delegation of Russia if they are ready with the Russian version of the terms of reference for long-term sustainability? We have some time as long as the Add.6 in two languages is still under process.

Mr. G. BARSEGOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) As we have already indicated, for the time being we still have some concerns related to the translation of the document in Russian and, as you know, talks are based on a text drafted in English and for the time being we are doing everything we can, leaving no stone unturned, to try to understand and, if possible, harmonize the Russian text with the English text, because we have several versions. If we can be given time to do this and we can reach the conclusion that the two texts are finalized, could we please just beg a bit more patience, we need just a little bit more time. We are in very unusual circumstances because the text in one of the official languages of the United Nations is different from the version in a different language, here I am referring to the English version. Even the term 'guidelines' in English is a term that we are all familiar with, we have been using it since the 1980s and here it has a different meaning it seems. If my dear colleagues could bear with us, if you have no objections what we would like to do is adopt the text at the very beginning of the afternoon. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I inform distinguished delegates that there is a procedural problem with the declaration as an annex to the omnibus resolution of the General Assembly. Now the guys from the UN will come and explain exactly what the Secretariat from New York said and recommended. In five minutes we will have somebody to explain, as long as annex VI, we still need some time to have the full translation in two languages and Add.6 is not yet ready because of the misunderstandings in the Russian language.

United States has the floor.

Mr. J. HIGGINS (United States of America) Mr. Chairman if I may, through you, ask our distinguished delegate from the Russian Federation the extent to which there are substantive problems with the

text. If there is a translation problem that is one thing, if there are substantive problems that will require us to do extra work to the text, my delegation would like to know that so we can plan accordingly for this afternoon. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished delegate of the United States. I give the floor to the Russian Federation.

Mr. G. BARSEGOV (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Let me repeat what I have already said. We do not have the intention of re-opening the debate and introducing amendments to the English text that we have all agreed upon. The problem, what is the problem? In English, in certain places has a rather odd wording let us say, it does not detract from the understanding of the text but it is one of the features of the English language. In fact it might be one of the strengths of the English language. In Russian the text needs drafting that has to be re-ordered, it is very important to re-work the text in a thorough way and that really is the problem that we have with the text. The translators, in doing the translation of the English text encountered these difficulties and that is why I would ask my esteemed colleague from the United States to show some understanding, I am sure that if he were in our position and he found himself with a text that had problems in the English language version even though everyone had agreed on the original in Russian, I am sure that he would want to give some time to the translation as well. So by trying to capture the spirit that has prevailed in this room I am going to do everything I can to accept and to propose that we adopt the report of the chairman of the working group with one express proviso and that is that all of our proposals to amend the Russian version of the agreed text would be adopted by the Secretariat. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation.

We have Addendum 6 ready, we could proceed now with the adoption of Add.6 to not lose time. We just wait for a few minutes for the distribution of Add.6.

The distinguished representative of South Africa has asked for the floor.

Mr. J. VAN WYK (South Africa) It has been brought to my attention that perhaps some of the other language versions of the long-term sustainability annex could also bear some scrutiny in other languages. Perhaps the different language groups might decide to

convene during the lunch break to have a look at this so that we can streamline our considerations of the text. It appears that it is not only our Russian colleagues who may have some language difficulties, it appears that there are one or two other issues in the other languages as well. Perhaps just to streamline our consideration of the document this afternoon. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you. So we will proceed with Addendum 6 now.

Switzerland has the floor.

Ms. N. ARCHINARD (Switzerland) (*interpretation from French*) Yes, absolutely right. As for the French language version of Annex II, Add.4, the delegation would like to suggest to other French speaking delegations that we meet around 2 p.m. or if not suitable some other time but in any event over lunch to check the translation and the language in respect of long-term sustainability. We are suggesting room 100, one of the small rooms at 2 p.m. but if other delegations object or, indeed, would like to have us meet some other time please do not hesitate and contact me. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Switzerland. So the proposal for the French-speaking member States is to meet at 2 p.m. in room M100. Are there any objections? Now it is up to you to organize the meeting.

We have a small question asked by the distinguished representative of Algeria at Add.5, space and climate change, paragraph 22, just to delete a few words at the end of the paragraph. In Add.5 it is about tropical cyclones and droughts and unusual dust storms in North Africa and south-west Asia, so they really said that they are not unusual dust storms and to delete in paragraph 22, the last words 'and unusual dust storms in North Africa and south-west Asia' and to have a full stop after tropical cyclones and droughts.

Are there any comments on this proposal? I see none.

We then proceed with the modification of paragraph 22 of Add.5 under space and climate change and delete the last words 'and unusual dust storms in North Africa and south-west Asia'.

If there are no more comments, we adopt finally this paragraph as it was proposed.

Now we go along with Add.6 of A/AC.105/L.281, recommendations and decisions.

Future role of the Committee

Paragraph 1. Are there any comments? I hope all of you have before you this document that was just distributed in the conference room. I see no comments on paragraph 1.

Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 3. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 4. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 5. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 6. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 7. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 8. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 9. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 10. Canada has a comment.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) The contents of paragraph 10, i.e. the item for the next year and then an updated version of the working paper for consideration and so on and so forth. I would like to know which working paper is referred to. If we look at, towards the UN space policy it would seem that the future of that particular paper now rests with the sustainability group, long-term sustainability of space

activities. So which working paper are we referring to here?

The CHAIRMAN It refers to the working paper described in paragraph 5. In paragraph 5 it is written that the working paper, then the number A/AC.105/L.278, represented a conceptual framework document that could address concerns related. It refers to this working paper.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) (*interpretation from French*) Thank you for clarifying. We would not object to the reconsideration of the item, it was indeed discussed during our deliberations, but we are somewhat concerned about the level of consultation. There was a meeting convened this week, I went, I was unaware that it had been cancelled but we have made comments to authors in the past and it would appear that they were not borne in mind. So we would like to find out what the method will be between now and next year in respect of the scope and content of this document and we would like to be informed. I have nothing precise to add under paragraph 10, I will try to draft something, if you agree, to say that there should be either other consultations or something done before the Committee is again apprised of this document or a new version for next year.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada.

So distinguished representative of Canada if you have a language to express the view in this paragraph please provide us with a text and we submit for adoption by member States.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) Yes, I may be ready to propose a text right away. In paragraph 10, on the third line, after 2008/2009, I would suggest to add 'to further consult during the intersession with other delegations with a view to present an updated version'.

At dictation speed? After 2008/2009, add 'to further consult with delegations during the intersession with a view' and continue with the text that is presently there.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. So paragraph 10, the proposal made by Canada is to include after 2008/2009 'to further consult with delegations during the intersession with a view to present an updated version of the working paper' and so on.

Any comments on the proposed modification by Canada? Yes, the distinguished representative of the Czech Republic.

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) My delegation was one of the sponsors to the continuation of consideration of this item, future role of the Committee. This is one thing, this is the first part of the proposed paragraph 10, it means agreement to continue the consideration of the item at its fifty-fifth session in 2012. Another suggestion was made by Canada but it is a separate suggestion that requested the Chair of the Committee to hold intersessional consultations, to present an updated version. Is my understanding correct?

The CHAIRMAN Yes, the distinguished representative of Canada confirms that your understanding is correct.

UK has the floor.

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) I want to ensure that what we do here is to once again reflect what we actually agreed to in the discussions that happened in the plenary. I think there is a difference between the Chair of the Committee, *Cirola*, proposing to update his paper for our consideration as he has been doing for the past couple of years and to actually having member State consultations on this paper which I do not think, though I am here to be corrected, is something that we agreed to. I do not actually see the Chair in case I am mistaken, I do not see *Cirola* in the room to agree to this change. What I would perhaps request is an alternative because I think the debate here is that what we are doing is discussing a paper of one member of one delegate not actually agreeing to a paper so to speak as a Committee is perhaps change the word 'requested' in the second line to 'agreed to consider' an updated version of the working group. I would have to work with the language I need to look at it. What we are doing is we are not agreeing that a new paper that is brought to us is something that we have all agreed on but we are agreeing that this is an interesting topic we of course want to continue looking at it and we will look at any new papers that this delegate and of course other delegates bring under this agenda item.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the UK. If you come with the full modified text of the paragraph we will submit it to member States and we will agree on it. Can you come with it now?

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Can I have 30 seconds just to rearrange my grammar.

The CHAIRMAN So we proceed with the next paragraph.

Distinguished representative of Nigeria has the floor.

Mr. A. ABIODUN (Nigeria) I am sorry if I bring you and other distinguished delegates back. When we are looking at this section, this is section J, we are looking at the future role of the Committee. When you look at paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9, there are other views here that go beyond the document articulated in paragraph 2. Therefore, when we talk about the future role of the Committee, are we only focusing only on that document mentioned in paragraph 2? Or, are we talking about other activities that reflect the role of the Committee? So what are we talking about? When I look at paragraph 10, I am looking at not just that document alone but what _____(?) the Committee as a whole needs to look at for the future, not just one document. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Nigeria. As I recall indeed it was about the future role of the Committee as a more complex approach than only through the document of Ambassador *Cirola Arévalo Yepes* towards a United Nations Space Policy. Do you propose any modifications or adding something to these recommendations that we have here?

Mr. A. ABIODUN (Nigeria) The reason why I am _____(?) when you look at paragraphs 6, 7, 8 and 9 a number of delegations have other views as to the future role of the Committee and I believe in giving opportunity to explain themselves also in some national papers on their own issues. We need to be broad minded, that is what I am asking.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Nigeria. One of the proposals is to split paragraph 10 in two parts. The first ending at 'for one year only' and then a second sentence with the continuation of the paragraph.

I give the floor to the UK.

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) I may have some text which hopefully also provides for the comments made by my Nigerian colleague, I will read it out first and then at dictation speed to see if it makes sense.

We have the first sentence finishing 'for one year only' 'and to consider submissions under this item including a proposed update of the present working paper by the Chair of the Committee' whether we need to finish that 'at its fifty-fifth session' I leave to delegates' decisions 'and to consider submissions

under this item including a proposed update of the present working paper by the Chair of the Committee for the period 2008-2009’.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the UK. Any comments to the proposal made by the UK? So the distinguished representative of Nigeria agrees with your proposal. Just read now slowly to be adequately included in the paragraph.

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) I will read the whole paragraph. ‘The Committee agreed to continue its consideration of the item at its fifty-fifth session in 2012 for one year only and to consider submissions under this item including a proposed update of the present working paper by the Chair of the Committee for the period 2008-2009.’

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the UK. Are there any comments on the proposal made by the UK.

Canada you have the floor.

Mr. J. CHOUINARD (Canada) I would agree with the proposal by our colleagues from the UK and have at the end ‘based on intersessional consultations’. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of Canada. The UK does not agree.

Ms. L. KEYTE (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Sorry, this goes back to the point of why I made this suggestion that I do not believe we agreed to have consultations on this paper, we have not had full consultations on this paper before, this is an individual’s paper, of course I am sure he has discussed it with his colleagues, that is something else but we do not think there was agreement in the plenary that this would be a paper that would be agreed and consulted upon formally, therefore we would not like to reflect this in the report, we would just like to reflect the fact that we are expecting a document.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the UK. The distinguished representative of Canada agrees with your observation. The UK will hand the exact text to the Secretariat as it was read now in the conference room.

Do you have any other comments on the proposed modification by the UK of the text?

I do not see any comments?

The modified paragraph 10 as requested by the delegation of the United Kingdom is adopted.

Paragraph 11. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 13. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 14. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 15. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 16. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 17. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 18. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 19. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 20. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 21. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 22. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 23. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 24. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 25. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 26. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 27. China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) In paragraph 27, the last line of this paragraph, China would propose after session we would add the following add 'fifty-first session of its Legal Subcommittee' make sure that not only the whole Committee will have no unedited transcripts but also from the next session of the Legal Subcommittee there will be no unedited transcripts, that was proposed by the Secretariat because from the proposal only _____(?) in 2012 not only limited to COPUOS whole session but also cover the Legal Subcommittee also. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of China.

I give the floor to the Secretariat for an explanation.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretariat) The distinguished delegate of China is correct in that sense but, in paragraph 26, the Committee endorses the recommendations made and I am referring specifically to paragraph 198, so the recommendation and decision made by the Legal Subcommittee related to its own unedited transcripts is covered by the reference to paragraphs 196-198 because that was specifically made in 198 of the Legal Subcommittee report. Paragraph 27 then relates to the decision by the Committee regarding its own unedited transcripts. This is just to explain how this has been drafted but we are of course prepared to listen to any arguments by the distinguished delegate of China in this regard.

The CHAIRMAN I thank the Secretariat for this explanation.

France has the floor.

Mr. L. SCOTTI (France) (*interpretation from French*) Merely a question to the Secretariat if I may. We understand that the reference to document L.282 does include the proposal which is contained in this document and that the decision we are taking is valid for a period of four years, 2012-2015 inclusive. Could you please confirm that? We get the impression that we take a final and definitive decision but it is only a decision for four years and we will have to reconsider this a few years down the road.

The CHAIRMAN The proposal is clear, 2012-2015.

Any comments to China on their proposal and the explanation of the Secretariat?

China has the floor.

Mr. Y. ZHAO (China) I can go along with the explanation offered by the Secretariat that in another way our concern was addressed, so we can go along with the current text. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN So, paragraph 27, with no modifications. Are there any comments? I see none.

Paragraph 27 is adopted.

Paragraph 28. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 29. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 30. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 31. Any comments? I see none.

Adopted.

We stop here.

Distinguished representative of the Czech Republic?

Mr. V. KOPAL (Czech Republic) I would like to return to paragraph 19 but I do not insist to do it now I will start with my comment in the afternoon.

The CHAIRMAN Thank you distinguished representative of the Czech Republic.

This meeting is adjourned until 3 p.m.

The meeting closed at 1.02 p.m.