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Thirtieth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda items 32 and 33

*Adopted
unanimously
on 15 Oct 1975*

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON PRINCIPLES
GOVERNING THE USE BY STATES OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES
FOR DIRECT TELEVISION BROADCASTING

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile,
Czechoslovakia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal
Republic of), Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya,
Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sierra
Leone, Sudan, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of
America and Venezuela: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3234 (XXIX) of 12 November 1974,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer
Space, 1/

Reaffirming the common interest of mankind in furthering the exploration and
use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Recalling its resolution 1721 B (XVI) of 20 December 1961, in which it
expressed the belief that the United Nations should provide a focal point for
international co-operation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

Convinced that the benefits deriving from space exploration can be extended to
States at every level of economic and scientific development if Member States
conduct their space programmes in a manner designed to promote maximum international

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session,
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co-operation and participation, including the widest possible exchange of information in this field, and the expansion of international programmes for the practical applications of space technology to development,

Reaffirming the importance of international co-operation in developing the rule of law in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

Welcoming the international co-operative effort, marked inter alia by the successful US/USSR joint Apollo-Soyuz flight in July 1975,

Noting that a World Administrative Radio Conference for the Planning of the Broadcasting Satellite Service will be held by the International Telecommunications Union in January 1977,

1. Endorses the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;
2. Invites States which have not yet become parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts, and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, and the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space to give early consideration to signing and ratifying or acceding to those international agreements;
3. Notes with satisfaction that the Legal Sub-Committee had pursued its work and achieved progress on the draft treaty relating to the moon; the elaboration of principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting, with a view to concluding an international agreement or agreements; and was able to begin the detailed consideration of remote sensing from space of the earth and to ascertain certain common elements in the three draft international instruments submitted to it as well as in the views expressed by Member States;
4. Recommends that the Legal Sub-Committee at its fifteenth session should, as matters of high priority:
 - (a) Continue to consider the draft treaty relating to the moon;
 - (b) Continue to consider the elaboration of principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting with a view to concluding an international agreement or agreements in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 2916 (XXVII) and 3234 (XXIX);
 - (c) (i) Continue its detailed legal consideration of remote sensing from space of the earth (i.e. of its natural resources and its natural environment); taking into account the various views of States expressed on the subject, including proposals for draft international instruments, and taking into account all relevant

discussions, views and conclusions concerning organizational, economic and technical aspects of remote sensing in the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, including those contained in the report of its twelfth session, 2/ with a view to identifying further common elements among the views of States:

- (ii) Proceed to the drafting of principles in regard to those particular areas of the subject where common elements in the views of States are identified;

5. Notes with satisfaction that the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, had examined the question of remote sensing of the earth from space and, as set out in paragraphs 27 and 28 of the report of its twelfth session, considered in detail both the current pre-operational/experimental phase as well as a possible future global/international operational remote sensing system or systems;

6. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee that the Secretary-General be requested to prepare for the consideration of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee the further studies on organizational and financial matters relating to remote sensing activities from space, as mentioned in paragraph 32 of the report of the Committee;

7. Further endorses the recommendation that the Secretary-General explore the feasibility of utilizing existing facilities and expertise to establish on an experimental basis an international centre for the training of personnel from developing countries in the effective use of remote sensing information and take other possible steps, as set out in paragraph 33 (a) of the report of the Committee, as well as undertake an appropriate users' survey for obtaining a clearer understanding of the real needs of the users, and their stage of preparedness in this area of activity;

8. Notes with satisfaction that the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee had pursued its work on i.a.:

- (a) The United Nations space applications programme;
- (b) The question of a possible international conference on outer space matters;

9. Requests the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee at its thirteenth session to undertake further detailed work on these and other matters in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, as set out in paragraph 53 of the report of the Committee;

10. Endorses the United Nations programme on space applications as referred to in paragraph 36 of the report of the Committee;

2/ A/AC.105/150, paras. 15-29.

11. Recommends the continuing review of the space applications programme, so as to enable it to respond more effectively to the needs of the developing countries for assistance in the practical applications of space technology;

12. Affirms the importance of ensuring effective interagency co-ordination in the area of space applications;

13. Requests the specialized agencies to provide the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with progress reports on their work, including particular problems in the fields within their competence relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

14. Approves continuing sponsorship by the United Nations of the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station in India and the CELPA Mar del Plata Station in Argentina and expresses its satisfaction with the work being carried out at those ranges in the peaceful and scientific exploration of outer space;

15. Notes the suggestion made by the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space concerning a potential future role of the Committee in view of the prospective significance of collection and transmission of solar energy through space technology;

16. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work, as set out in the present and previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-first session.
