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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL  
USES OF OUTER SPACE  
Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee  
Fifth session

Letter dated 21 July 1967 from the Chairman of the Committee on  
the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space addressed to the Chairman of  
the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee

21 July 1967

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose, for your attention, a letter addressed to me by the Chairman of the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, along with its attached questionnaire.

In consideration of section II, paragraph (a), of the attached questionnaire, and in order that the members of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee may have the opportunity to study this matter prior to their scheduled meeting in August 1967, it is my intention to request the Secretariat to circulate the report of the Legal Sub-Committee and the relevant provisional summary records.

I do so with no intent to prejudice the decision as to whether or not your Sub-Committee will find it possible to include this matter in their deliberations, but merely to take advantage of the time allowed, enabling the members of your Sub-Committee to be prepared should this subject indeed become a topic for discussion.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Dr. Kurt WALDHEIM  
Chairman  
Committee on the Peaceful Uses  
of Outer Space

Dr. D.F. Martyn, F.A.A., F.R.S.  
Chief, Upper Atmosphere Section  
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CAMDEN, New South Wales  
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67-19557

Palais des Nations  
Geneva  
14 July 1967

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that at its 84th meeting on 14 July 1967 the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space decided to seek the views of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee on certain questions relating to item 4 of the agenda of its current sixth session. As you well know this item reads as follows:

- "4. Study of questions relative to
- (a) the definition of outer space
  - (b) the utilization of outer space and celestial bodies, including the various implications of space communications"

It was the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that I should transmit to you the attached questionnaire which was unanimously adopted by the Sub-Committee as well as the relevant summary records of meetings in order that you might forward them to Dr. David Martyn, the Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee. I wish to bring to your attention that the Legal Sub-Committee, while aware of the heavy agenda of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, expressed the desire, as stated in sub-paragraph II (b) of the questionnaire, that the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee would examine the matters included in that questionnaire at its forthcoming session scheduled to meet in August 1967.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Eugeniusz Wyzner

Chairman of the Legal Sub-Committee  
of the Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space

H.E. Mr. Kurt Waldheim  
Chairman, Committee on the  
Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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QUESTIONNAIRE

The Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,  
Desiring to obtain the technical and scientific documentation it needs to undertake the study requested of it concerning questions relative to the definition of outer space and its peaceful uses,

Referring to the programme of work of the Committee on Outer Space (document A/AC.105/CRP.1 (IX)) adopted by the Committee at its meeting of 17 April 1967, and in particular to paragraph III (V) thereof relating to the study of the technical aspects of the legal subjects referred to in resolution 2222 (XXI),

Invites the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee:

- I. (a) to draw up a list of scientific criteria that could be helpful to the Legal Sub-Committee in its study relative to a definition of outer space,  
(b) to give its views on the selection of scientific and technical criteria that might be adopted by the Legal Sub-Committee, and to indicate, on scientific and technical grounds, the advantages and disadvantages of each of them in relation to the possibility of a definition which would be valid for the long-term future,
- II. (a) to consider the summary records of the 80th to 83rd meetings of the Legal Sub-Committee, at which these matters were initially discussed, and to take into account the assumptions, suggestions and questions voiced by the various delegations,  
(b) to examine the above matters during its 1967 session so as to enable the Legal Sub-Committee to continue its work at its next session.

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