

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space***Unedited transcript*595<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Thursday, 19 June 2008, 3 p.m.

Vienna

*Chairman:* Mr. Filipe Duarte Santos (Portugal)

*The meeting was called to order at 3.28 p.m.*

**The CHAIRMAN:** Good afternoon distinguished delegates, I now declare open the 595<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

This afternoon we will continue and conclude our consideration of agenda item 14, Other Matters. We will also begin our consideration of agenda item 15, Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

**Other matters (agenda item 14)**

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to continue and conclude our consideration of agenda item 14, Other Matters, which is composition of the Bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2010-2011.

We still have pending nominations for the Chairman of the Committee by the Eastern Group of States, and for the First Vice-Chairman of the Committee by the African Group of States.

Do these regional groups wish to take the floor now?

I do not see interventions. So if there is no objection, I will postpone the discussion of this item since there are no interventions from these two regional groups.

So we now move to the observer status. This morning we have agreed on granting the permanent observer status to two intergovernmental organizations, the European Organization for Astronomical Research

in the Southern Hemisphere, and the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization.

We now have to decide on the three non-governmental organizations that have requested permanent status with the Committee, namely, one, the International Institute of Space Law, CRP.5, it is the document of the proposition, two, Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water, CRP.8, the corresponding document, and three, the Secure World Foundation, CRP.6, the corresponding document.

These applications are contained in Conference Room Papers Nos. 5, 6 and 8 as I have just mentioned.

So I see that the distinguished delegate from Venezuela wishes to take the floor. You have the floor.

**Mr. R. NAVARRO** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, good afternoon and thank you Chairman. We had asked the Secretariat for additional information regarding data from ECOSOC which was to be asked from 1990 and we received information but we did not receive a response to the question we put on this. And the other thing is something we had asked for in our statement and it was we wish to be informed which organizations have permanent observer status and have been recognized with an advisory status to ECOSOC, so we would like an answer from the Secretariat on this.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you distinguished delegate from Venezuela. I will ask the Secretariat to give the required information on this point.

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**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, indeed, the Secretariat will do so.

In recognition of the rules that were adopted by COPUOS in 1990, since that time, of the non-governmental organizations granted observer status by consensus decision of COPUOS since 1990, a majority did not at the time of the granting of such status meet the requirement of having consultative status with ECOSOC. Nonetheless, COPUOS agreed by consensus that these non-governmental organizations should be granted observer status on condition that they subsequently applied to ECOSOC for consultative status. All of these decisions were subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly.

Every year, when the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space considers an application by a non-governmental organization, there is a standard paragraph put in the report, and I would just like to read out one such paragraph. It is from the report A/60/20 and I will leave out the particular organization in this respect. I will come back to that later.

“At its 547<sup>th</sup> meeting on 16 June, the Committee accepted the application of ..... and granted the ..... permanent observer status with the Committee on the understanding that in accordance with the agreement of the Committee at its thirty-third session concerning observer status for non-governmental organizations, ..... would apply for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.”

And these decisions by the Committee had been endorsed by the General Assembly.

Now, the distinguished delegate of Venezuela has asked the Secretariat for a list of non-governmental organizations that have been granted permanent observer status with the Committee and on their ECOSOC status. The Secretariat has received a document from ECOSOC. This is from 2007, a full ECOSOC list of all its observers and it comprises like 3,000 organizations.

The organizations that the Secretariat would just like to refer for your consideration in this debate are the following, and I am now referring to organizations that did not have ECOSOC consultative status up until the application:

The European Association for the International Space Year, EURISY; the Space Generation Advisory Council; the International Space

University; the International Academy of Astronautics; the International Astronomical Union; and the Association of Space Explorers, ESPI.

Some of these organizations they have now status with ECOSOC but up until the application and the granting of the Committee of permanent observer status, they did not have such status with ECOSOC. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you the Secretariat for the clarification and the very complete information on this matter.

I think the distinguished delegate from Saudi Arabia has asked for the floor. The distinguished delegate from Saudi Arabia has the floor.

**Mr. N. A. AL-SAHHAF** (Saudi Arabia) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Thank you. In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate, Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of my country's delegation, I would like to bring my full support to the suggestions made by the distinguished delegate of the United States of America, the distinguished delegate of Chile and the delegate of the Czech Republic. I would also like to convey my gratitude to the delegates of Iraq, Argentina and Colombia for their statements.

I would like to seize this opportunity that the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water deals with a very important part of the topics we deal with here in this Committee. Thank you Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I thank the distinguished delegate from Saudi Arabia for his statement.

I now give the floor to the distinguished delegate from Chile, Ambassador Raimundo González.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you Chairman. I would like to congratulate the Secretariat. I would like to congratulate it because it has carried out outstanding work. We have heard very precise legal arguments in response to the questions raised by a number of delegations. The issue seems to me to be settled and it is now time to focus on those aspects which will have practical repercussions on our countries regarding the peaceful use of space technology. We have seen what the situation is with precedence, and from a legal standpoint, the issue has been settled. So I believe that it is now time to move

on to other issues because there is no reason for the Committee to dwell on this excessively. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you for your statement distinguished delegate from Chile.

I now give the floor to the distinguished delegate from Argentina. Thank you.

**Mr. F. MENICOCCI** (Argentina) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. The delegation of Argentina fully subscribes to the view of the Ambassador González. We agree with him regarding the issue we are considering right now. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you the representative of Argentina.

**Mr. C. ARÉVALO-YEPES** (Colombia) (Chairman) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I apologize for being late. I had to be in the centre of town and I have just arrived now and I believe that, no, I have a list of speakers before me and I will, therefore, give the floor to the Czech Republic.

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman for your kind giving me the floor for a short while again. I only wanted to say that this morning I was speaking in favour of two non-governmental applications for the observership status, namely that of the International Institute of Space and that of the Secure World Foundation. To my regret, I omitted to the third such application. It means the application for the observership status of the Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water because I did not have at my disposal the relevant document, CRP.8. Of course, my support extends to this particular proposal so that all three applications should be considered by the Committee in a positive way. Thank you very much.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank you for your statement. Thank you very much and my apologies for the delay. The Secretariat has just informed regarding the debates which have taken place on this issue. I understand that we have concluded and I think the time is right now for us to make a decision. We have taken note of all the statements made, all the comments made by the various delegations and the Chair is now ready to request us all to take a decision.

The delegate of Venezuela has requested the floor. You have the floor.

**Mr. R. NAVARRO** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chairman, how shall I put this? The request that Venezuela had put to the Secretariat have not been met. Rules have to be drawn up and they exist and we have to take this into account and various organizations can have a presence here for a specified period of time to ensure that their work is not interrupted. But I believe that nonetheless we have to abide by our rules.

**The CHAIRMAN:** During the lunch break, and I discussed this with the Secretariat, and I believe it is important for the Secretariat to tell us whether from the legal standpoint the requirements to have these organizations enjoy or be granted observer status with ECOSOC is of fundamental importance and so, is this a legal requirement or is this rather just a custom which is that we grant observer status to those who deserve it? Thank you.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is clear. Two things. In 1990, the Committee agreed by consensus that in future non-governmental organizations which request permanent observer status with the Committee should have consultative status with ECOSOC and should, as part of their programmes, be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee. And that agreement was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly.

Now, the practice of the Committee in granting such permanent observer status is the following, that the COPUOS has agreed that non-governmental organizations should be granted observer status on condition that it subsequently applied to ECOSOC for consultative status. And this decision has then subsequently then been endorsed by the General Assembly.

So there is a rule from 1990 and there is a practice since 1990. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Following these clarifications, the delegate nonetheless insists on taking the floor again. He, therefore, has the floor.

**Mr. R. NAVARRO** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. But what is going on here? What would happen if ECOSOC were to turn down the observer status for this NGO? What would we do then?

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I give the floor to the Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Mr. Chairman, the Secretariat of the Office for Outer Space Affairs is not in a position to state what the internal procedures of the ECOSOC are. So this is a question that the Secretariat of the Office for Outer Space Affairs cannot answer. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well. The delegate of Chile had asked for the floor, Ambassador Raimundo González.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. What is going on here is very simple. The body will simply have to cease its participation in the Committee but I do not know any precedent, I mean there are 3,000 who have this status with ECOSOC. But the delegate of Venezuela himself had proposed a solution which seems to be a reasonable one. We could continue to invite them to participate in subsequent sessions. This would be in line with the proposal which we proposed this morning. But what is entirely clear here, and I said this earlier from a legal standpoint, there is no problem here. Things have been spelt out quite clearly by the Secretariat. If we, from a legal point of view, there is no problem. We can look at the question from another angle, if you absolutely wish to do so, but we have what was established in 1990 and then there is existing practice within the Committee. So if ECOSOC decides, and this would be most unusual, but perhaps it could happen that one or other delegation would not be granted this observer status, well, all we have to do is follow the rules which we have set ourselves and ECOSOC, via a General Assembly resolution, has, in some ways, ordered us to do this.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank the Ambassador of Chile. Thank you very much.

The Secretariat has just confirmed that we are not breaching any legal rule. I would, therefore, call upon the delegation of Venezuela with the understanding that, of course, we will take a look at the rules and with a great deal of care, we will report on the results of this examination to the Committee. But for now, please let us make a decision on these three bodies.

But I give the floor to Venezuela.

**Mr. R. NAVARRO** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Well, I believe that we are looking at the whole situation back

to front. We can grant a temporary observer status with an invitation to participate in our meetings until ECOSOC decides. I think this would be the most natural way to proceed because otherwise we will have to carry out an in-depth consideration of the issue and this means that there is a certain amount of doubt, even if it is a tiny doubt, but the doubt exists whether the NGO will or will not put in a request to ECOSOC.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, I thank the delegate of Venezuela. It is not a question of any doubt that would subsist. This is a request which Bolivia has put to us and we seem to agree that this was something useful, and from a legal standpoint, this is entirely valid, at least this is the way the Chair sees it. I, therefore, insist and ask you that we should move forward, as I have just spelt out previously.

You have the floor distinguished delegate of Venezuela.

**Mr. R. NAVARRO** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Well, in this case, we believe that all NGOs which are present should be assessed by the Committee to see whether they would keep this permanent status because once this permanent status has been granted, then it does not mean that it is for eternity. We believe that there is a need to look at how things develop, how the status of this NGO might develop, its activities, to decide whether this status should be preserved.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, on behalf of the Chair and all the delegates, I convey my gratitude to the delegate of Venezuela for the spirit of flexibility and compromise. I believe that he is entirely right so let us not lose track of the fact that those who will know enjoy this status as a result of your collaboration, there is a need to engage in a global exercise in consideration. Thank you.

I believe that we have hereby accepted to grant the observer status to these three bodies that had requested it and we thank all the delegations for their openness and flexibility and, of course, we will take all the necessary steps regarding the status in the future.

Now, the second agenda item is that of regional groups, and to my knowledge, the African Group has some positive news to share with us. I, therefore, give the floor to the African Group if its representative is present in the room, otherwise we can, of course, wait until tomorrow.

South Africa, you have the floor.

**Ms. N. MAJAJA** (South Africa): Thank you Chairperson. The African Group has met and they have agreed that South Africa should take the position of First Vice-Chairpersonship. We accept this position but we will consult at home as our leader of delegation is not here at the moment and will forward the name in due course. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank you for your statement and we have taken note of what you have just told us.

The following item on our agenda is the Eastern European Group of States. This is the only group which thus far has not presented a candidacy. So I call upon all the States which are members of this Group to take a decision and to do this before tomorrow. You know that this is of fundamental importance. We have the two-years notice rule, which is very important, and I will be gratified if we had a response as rapidly as possible.

So I have spoken to the Secretariat and we wanted to be realistic when it came to considering the candidacy of the Eastern European Group of States because we need to spell this out in the report and the report has to be drawn up as rapidly as possible. And if there are no candidacies, I hope this will not be the case, of course, but if this were to be the case, we will be forced in the report to indicate that we had asked the Group to make a decision as rapidly as possible. But again, I hope that we will not have to include something of this nature in our report and that we will enjoy positive news on this issue.

So please I would be happy to, by tomorrow, before tomorrow, organize an informal meeting with the President of the Group to be able to come up with a candidacy. Thank you very much.

We will now move on to our next agenda item.

#### **Report of the Committee to the General Assembly (agenda item 15)**

Very well. There have been developments, very dynamic, very fast, and the Secretariat tells me that we can start working on the report of the Committee to the General Assembly, item 15 of our agenda. You have the first Chapter before you, document A/AC.105/L.271. It was distributed this afternoon in the pigeonholes of the delegates. It contains introduction, item 6 and item 7, maintaining

outer space for peaceful purposes. Once again, it is document A/AC.105/L.271.

Does everyone have it? I see that is not the case. Some delegations are still looking for their copies. Ten minutes break.

*Break*

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much. Thus, we are ready to begin our consideration and approval of the draft report. As is customary in this Committee, we will proceed paragraph-by-paragraph.

The draft report before us contains Chapter I. Introduction. We are going to read it at cruising speed.

Paragraph 1. Comments.

*Approved.*

A. Meetings of Subsidiary Bodies.

Paragraph 2.

*Approved.*

I am sorry. I did not see you Cuba. You have the floor.

**Mr. D. CODORNIU-PUJALS** (Cuba) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In the Spanish version of paragraph 2, it says here Commission of Scientific and Technical.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, this is Subcommittee obviously, Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, not Commission, you are quite Cuba. So we correct it in the Spanish version with Cuba's amendment.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 3. I see no comments.

*Approved.*

Moving to Agenda, paragraph 4.

*Approved.*

Membership, paragraph 5.

Please double check the names of your countries. The Russian Federation has the floor.

**Mr. S. SHESTAKOV** (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. There are slight bucks or typos here. For example, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America are referred to in different ways in paragraphs 5 and 6, at least in the English and the Russian versions. Thank you. In paragraph 5, it says "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland", in paragraph 6 it says "United Kingdom".

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. We will make sure that the text is consistent in all languages.

The Secretariat please.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. No, this is, in fact, the practice of the structure of the report that the first time that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is mentioned and the United States of America is mentioned in the first paragraph that is spelt out. In all the subsequent paragraphs, then it is just United Kingdom and the United States. So this is the practice. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much. I thank the Secretariat for this clarification.

Moving on to D. Attendance. Before we take up paragraph 6, however, Switzerland has the floor. Please.

**Ms. N. ARCHINARD** (Switzerland) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is more of a question but in paragraph 5, should we not also refer to the most recent resolution of the United Nations General Assembly which endorsed the accession of Bolivia and Switzerland? Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, consulting the Secretariat, yes, absolutely, confirmed.

Now back to paragraph 6. The Netherlands.

**Mr. A. S. RELJNGOUD** (Netherlands): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Netherlands should be included in paragraph 6 as it stands. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, with great pleasure. Thank you.

Any other comments on paragraph 6?

I see none.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 7.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 8.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 9.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 10.

*Approved.*

General Statements. Paragraph 11.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 12.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 13.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 14.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 15.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 16.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 17.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 18.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 19.

*Approved.*

Adoption of the Report of the Committee.

Paragraph 20 is incomplete. Therefore, we will come back to this paragraph later.

Now we will move to Chapter II. Recommendations and Decisions, (a) Ways and Means of Maintaining Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes.

Paragraph 21.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 22.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 23.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 24.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 25.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 26.

Ambassador Raimundo González of Chile has requested the floor.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Sir, a detail but it has a substantive meaning as well. In the Spanish version, there is reference to preparations for the Sixth Conference. We should add something. "Preparation of the Sixth Conference, in accordance with what was indicated in paragraph ..." I do not recall the actual number of the paragraph ... "of the General Assembly resolution 62/217", that is the number of the resolution, "to be held in Guatemala".

Also I have a question to put to the Secretariat. It says here a second meeting was to be held, will be held from 30 July to 1 August. I think it will be held. I think it is a fact, it is a reality, so why do we not say so, "will be held in Ecuador from 30 July to 1 August"?

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you Ambassador Raimundo González. This applies to the line about the Sixth Conference that will be held in Guatemala, and a second meeting will be held in Ecuador. I am going to ask the Secretariat to comment specifically on the matter of the meeting in Ecuador from 30 July to 1 August.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Regarding the first request by the distinguished delegate from Chile and the Secretariat will put the appropriate references to General Assembly resolution 62/217 into this paragraph.

And regarding the second request in the second last line that a second meeting will be held in Ecuador. We will change that accordingly.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well. I thank the Secretariat and on the fifth paragraph, also on the previous line, "will be held". Thank you.

With these modifications, I submit paragraph 27 for your approval.

*Approved.*

That was paragraph 26, I apologize.

Now paragraph 27. On paragraph 27, I have two requests for the floor. Algeria and South Africa. Algeria has the floor.

**Mr. A. OUSSEDIK** (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*): It is on the same line of thought as the previous paragraph. Why do we use the conditional tense in the last sentence? On space science and technology for sustainable will be held in Algeria in 2009, rather than would be held.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): It is a very appropriate comment. And the distinguished delegate of South Africa, you have the floor.

**Ms. N. MAJAJA** (South Africa): Chairperson, may I request that we add in paragraph 27, line 3, “held in Pretoria, South Africa” for clarity for those who do not know where Pretoria is?

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you very much. I think everybody knows where it is but it is important to mention the country here as well.

The Secretariat has a comment to make. The Secretariat has the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. First, a general observation on when use present or past tense or future, we are bound by editorial rules and the Secretariat will consult with the Editorial Section but the report will have to be aligned with the editorial rules. So the editors, they will need to have this final say in how we express this but the meaning has to go through.

Now, with regard to Pretoria, a capital of any State is not mentioned so it is only when there are other cities in a particular country but when it is the capital of a State, then the country is not mentioned.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Could the Secretariat perhaps make an exception in this case at the request of the South African delegation?

One comment on the alignment of the text. In many cases, the conditional tense in the Spanish and the French comes from the English version. So whoever is responsible for editorial consistency, would you please make sure that every correction is reflected adequately in the Spanish and the French as well?

Yes, the Czech Republic has the floor.

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic): ... follow the rules or habit here in the United Nations. This is an English grammar that requests past tense in case that a sentence that begins in the past tense. It means if we say the Committee also noted, so we have to say would be held, instead of will be held. Sorry, English grammar.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you for your grammatical comment. Very useful, very helpful.

Now with these comments and modifications, can we approve paragraph 27?

*It is approved.*

Paragraph 28.

Yes, Chile has the floor. Paragraph 28.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. It does not seem to be complete with its reference to the Air and Space Fair held in Santiago in Chile. First of all, it should say Santiago, Chile, because there is also Santiago de Compostela. There are many Santiagos in the world. So it is a little different, Santiago de Chile. It is also more polluted but that is a different problem.

Now, on the paragraph, there should be a reference to paragraph 23 of United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/217 which mentions the Conference by name and I think it is the minimum that we can do is include that reference. As an important matter, it is also the next subject to be put on the agenda of the Committee. It is a Conference on the Application of Space Technologies and so on and so forth.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Ambassador Raimundo González of Chile. For sure, the Secretariat has taken note and will amend this paragraph accordingly.

Thus, can we consider paragraph 28 approved?

*It is so decided.*

Paragraph 29.

Germany has the floor.

**Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN** (Germany): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just a small issue, “use”, is that not plural, the second line, “the peaceful uses of outer space”. Here it is the singular form of “use”.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): You are right. Paragraph 29 is thus adopted as amended.

Paragraph 30.

*It is adopted.*

Paragraph 31.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 32.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 33.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 34.

*Adopted.*

On 34, Germany.

**Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN** (Germany): Sorry, slightly late. The last line, the article “the”, I think, is superfluous, “with its mandate”, not “with the its mandate”.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you for your comment. Paragraph 34 is thus adopted.

Paragraph 35 now.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 36.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 37.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 38.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 39.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 40.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 41.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 42. The Russian Federation on 41 or is it 42? So 41 is adopted and 42, I give you the floor.

**Mr. D. LOBACH** (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*): Chairman, thank you. The Russian delegation believes that it would be right to in this paragraph 42 reflect the presentation which was made by the Russian delegation on the Treaty on Preventing the Deployment of Weapons into Outer Space. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Absolutely right. I thank you for your comment and this proposal made by the Russian Federation. So 42 is thus adopted.

We move on to paragraph 43.

*Adopted.*

We now move on to the next section, Section B. Implementation of the Recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Paragraph 44.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 45.

Nigeria has the floor.

**Mr. J. O. AKINYEDE** (Nigeria): Thank you. Line 3, “representatives of other member States” or could that be other member States or some other member States or many other member States? I think the Secretariat should clarify that.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you to Nigeria. The Secretariat?

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): This is the practice that has been applied by COPUOS in reflecting this. Now, what this paragraph tries to convey is, first of all, which country, which delegation spoke under this agenda item. And then other member States, other delegations addressed this item but other the general exchange of views. So this is the way of dealing with it. So what it means by other member States is that the other member States present at the session addressed issues on the ways and means, no, under UNISPACE III but in the general exchange of views.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes thank you to the Secretariat for the statement.

Canada, you have the floor.

**Ms. P. WILLIAMS** (Canada): Mr. Chairman, Canada also made a statement under that item. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes, thank you Canada. You will be added to the list.

The United States.

**Mr. K. HODGKINS** (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, our delegation made reference to the implementation of recommendations of UNISPACE III but we did not give a specific statement on that so we probably should be deleted from the list of statements made by representatives. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you United States for the comment. We will take it into account.

Any further requests for the floor?

The Secretariat asked me whether Mexico made a specific statement on this issue.

**Mr. R. FUENTES-SÁNCHEZ** (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. No. We made a reference to this and we made a statement within the framework of the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well, we will, therefore, amend this.

Any further requests for the floor on paragraph 45.

It does not seem to be the case.

*It is, therefore, adopted.*

Paragraph 46.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 47.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 48.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 49. On 49, I give the floor to the Ambassador of Chile.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Chairman, thank you. A question, a request for clarification on little (b). I would include the acronym of the organization because I would, therefore, include IIASA after the comma.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): We have just realized but you are absolutely right, although it is present in the English and, of course, the French Version, it is absent in the Spanish version. They will, therefore, be aligned.

If there are no further comments on 49, I will consider it to be adopted.

So paragraph 49 is hereby adopted.

Paragraph 50.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 51.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 52.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 53.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 54.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 55.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 56.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 57.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 58.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 59.

The United States.

**Mr. K. HODGKINS** (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make, or suggest a revision to the last line of paragraph 59 because I think it reflects better the intent of this paragraph and the idea that we wanted to look at examples of regional, international cooperation and maybe add some national success stories as appropriate.

So I suggest the following. First, delete in the third line from the bottom where it begins “and include”, so delete “and include as appropriate national success stories” and so on, and insert in its place the following: “and that in addition to examples of regional and international cooperation, national success stories that might provide useful examples to the overall contribution by the Committee should also be included as appropriate”. So again, from the third line from the bottom of the current paragraph, I would delete the phrase that begins “and include as appropriate” and insert it with the following “and that in addition to examples of regional and international cooperation, national success stories that might provide useful examples to the overall contribution by the Committee should also be included as appropriate.” Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank the delegate of the United States of America.

And I give the floor to Canada.

**Ms. P. WILLIAMS** (Canada): Mr. Chairman, thanks for your indulgence. We were a little bit slow but in paragraph 51, we had a small amendment concerning Canada and it is the sentence which begins “in that regard, the Committee noted with satisfaction that the Action Team 6 on Public Health, chaired by Canada and the WHO”. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well. Let us look at the amendments in the order in which they were submitted. The first one was that presented by the United States on paragraph 50. And the representative of the United States read it

out to us. I, therefore, turn to the delegates whether they have all understood what was added.

It seems to be the case. This amendment is hereby adopted and the whole paragraph is adopted.

And now in paragraph 51, regarding what Canada wanted to add here, I will ask the Secretariat whether it is customary to list the countries which chaired any ...

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. First of all, the Secretariat understands that the Canadian delegation wants to have “of the Action Team of Public Health, chaired by Canada and the WHO”. That is correct? OK. Yes, certainly.

Now, with the numbering of the Action Teams, we have been through this for several years and always a problem with the Editorial Section that they do not put the numbering of the Action Teams in the report. Delegations, of course, might reflect whether this practice that we have had in the report from last year and previous reports should be then followed or if any other direction would be given to the Secretariat concerning this. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Very well. It is existing practice here. This is how we used to do it in the past but perhaps we could see what the Secretariat can do here because there are not as many teams as we had in the past now and we could, therefore, respond positively to Canada’s request. Anyway we will leave it in the hands of the Drafting Group.

Very well. The delegate of Canada seems to agree.

It is thus adopted. We have adopted paragraph 51 and we will jump back to paragraph 60. paragraph 59 had been adopted you will recall.

Paragraph 60 is submitted for your consideration.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 61.

*Adopted.*

South Africa on paragraph 61.

**Ms. N. MAJAJA** (South Africa): Thank you Chairperson. Our delegation would like to request a small addition in paragraph 61 in the fifth sentence to read as follows: “the Committee requested the Secretariat to organize a panel discussion based on equitable distribution, geographical distribution of the countries, to be chaired by the Chairman of the Committee”. Just an addition based on equitable geographic distribution of countries. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you very much to the delegate of South Africa. I cannot recall that this was pointed out when we addressed the issue of the debate but I will ask the Secretariat whether at the time they had taken note of the statement to that end.

The Secretariat has the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In paragraph 61, what is proposed there is to organize a panel discussion at the General Assembly on food security as the main theme and how space has a role in that regard. Now, the panel to be organized, the Secretariat is requested hereby to organize such a panel and the Secretariat already in the first week, last week, explained our intention in organizing this panel and the Secretariat will invite speakers from a wide range of entities. And in the view of the Secretariat, it would be important to have the scientific community represented in the panel, the development community represented in the panel, which means either from the United Nations Secretariat, the ECOSOC Secretariat, the Division on Sustainable Development in New York, and then we will see how many other entities. The panel should not exceed five members because there is a limited timing and when the panel can actually have its discussions in the General Assembly. But the panel should mainly comprise of representatives from agencies, institutions, United Nations specialized agencies. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): I thank the Secretariat for these clarifications.

I now submit paragraph 61 for approval. Any further comments?

It does not seem to be the case.

It is thus adopted.

We now turn to paragraph 62. Chile has the floor.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. I would like to call on the Committee’s generosity to ask it whether we can include a paragraph 61 *bis*. If other delegations will not agree, I will not make a fuss about it but if my memory serves me right, I am under the impression that what we have just adopted concerning this debate followed a Chilean initiative. And this is why I would propose that as we referred to many countries here in this report, such as Canada, for example, one could perhaps add a paragraph 61 *bis* in which one would state something along the lines of the debate or the roundtable, call it whatever you want, was the result of a proposal which was made by Chile. I believe that I am not lying when I say something like this.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): No, no one will contest the truthfulness of your comments. I will thus turn to the Secretariat and ask it whether we can move forward in this fashion.

Yes, how about a counter proposal of the Chair and the Secretariat where we could say or we would not add a paragraph but rather we could include a reference to this at the beginning of the paragraph, at the beginning of paragraph 61.

**Mr. R. GONZÁLEZ ANINAT** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I will consult with my capital and my Ministry but I believe that should be fine.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Well, satellite communications seem to be very good ones with Chile so it is, therefore, adopted.

Now we turn to paragraph 62, the last paragraph.

*Adopted.*

So the document as a whole, we have a one pending paragraph, paragraph 20, and this paragraph will be included tomorrow.

So, except for this paragraph 20, I submit this document as a whole to you for your adoption.

I see no objections.

The document is thus adopted, pending the amendments to paragraph 20.

Thank you distinguished delegates, we have moved very fast with great efficiency, thanks to the cooperation of all delegations. We have no more work for this afternoon. Would you like to take the floor on the items that you wanted to talk about?

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just to inform delegations of the procedure for the adoption of the report tomorrow. We have thus adopted the first part of the report but there will be four addendas. Tomorrow morning, delegations will have Addenda 1, 2 and 3 to this document, L.271, in all languages. However, Addenda.4, the last addenda to this report, reflecting the discussions we had today under Other Matters, agenda item 14, will be before delegations in all languages at 3.00 p.m. tomorrow. So there will be an afternoon session. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you. Thank you very much Secretariat. I would like to convey to the Secretariat the concern of a number of delegations that were going to leave tomorrow afternoon. We have worked very efficiently, very fast. Would it be possible to provide it before 1.00 p.m.? Maybe 12.30 p.m., this last part of the report because to come back at 3.00 p.m. only for half an hour to approve this final part of the report would seem to be less efficient. So my question is, would it be possible for the Secretariat to prepare it before 1.00 p.m.? Obviously, the Secretariat has to be willing and has to be agreeable to this. What does the Secretariat think of this proposal?

After intensive negotiations with the Secretariat, I can report with great professional conscience that these are important paragraphs and it is suggested we will do our best, whatever we can to try and get the report in its entirety before 1.00 p.m. but it is not guaranteed. So there is the medial hope. It is medial hopeful the situation in that regard.

And with that, I am going to adjourn the meeting. Please have a good rest. We will see you tomorrow morning. The meeting is adjourned.

*The meeting closed at 4.58 p.m.*