

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee**

Unedited transcript

801st Meeting
Friday, 3 April 2009, 10 a.m.
Vienna

Chairman: Mr. V. Kopal (Czech Republic)

The meeting was called to order at 10.28 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Good morning distinguished delegates. I now open the 801st meeting of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

But before proceeding with our agenda, I would like to give the floor to our Secretary who will advise you about the order of our discussions.

You have the floor Mr. Secretary.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, indeed, I will do. I would like to inform you about the status of documentation as follows.

You should have before you the draft report of the Working Group on Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties in document 3/L.1.

You should also have before you the third part of the draft report of the Subcommittee, L.276/Add.2.

The draft report of the Working Group on National Legislation, which will be contained in LEG/L.1, is not yet out in all languages. We have been promised that the draft report of that Working Group will be out in all languages within an hour. We are monitoring this carefully.

Mr. Chairman, the Secretariat proposes then that the Subcommittee starts this morning by adopting Addendum.2 to its report, the report of the Subcommittee. Then that the Working Group on the

Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties, which means Working Group 4, convenes to adopt its report and then the Working Group on Agenda Item 11 to adopt its report. And then we will see how to proceed because there is the final part of the report which will be contained in Addendum.3. We have been promised that the document should be out around 12.00 p.m. but we cannot promise that so we will update you and the delegations of the status of that document. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you Mr. Secretary for your very useful advice how to proceed further in order to save as much time as possible and to act in an economic way.

So, with your approval, if there are no objections, we would start now discussing Addendum.2 which contains sections on examination and review of the developments concerning the draft Protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, and capacity-building in space law.

Do all delegations have these documents that we will begin considering now?

Yes, I see no objections.

So let us now start with, paragraph-by-paragraph, adoption of Addendum.2.

VII. Examination and Review of the Developments Concerning the Draft Protocol on Matters Specific to Space Assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment. This is the title

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.



And now paragraph 1.

This is just a statement of the fact.

There are no objections, I suppose. No.

Adopted.

Paragraph 2.

Again a statement of fact.

Adopted?

Adopted.

Paragraph 3.

The United States of America.

Mr. K. HODGKINS (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In paragraph 3, on Page 2, the dates for the Government Experts Meeting are reflected here as being from 3 November to 4 December. I do not think that is correct. I think was it not 30 November to 4 December? Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Very probably. Yes, you are right, distinguished representative of the United States. Though a stay in Rome from 3 November through 4 December would be quite agreeable, I think for your delegation as well as for other participants for this particular meeting. But I thank you for bringing it to our attention.

So, subject to this improvement, may I take it that it adopted?

I see no objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 4.

It is the view of some delegations.

No objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 5.

Any comments or objections?

I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 6.

I see no comments or no objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 7.

It is just the view of one delegation and I heard it so I suppose no objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 8.

Again the view of one delegation.

No objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 9.

Again the view of one delegation.

Adopted.

Paragraph 10.

The view of one delegation.

Adopted.

Paragraph 11.

I think no objections against it.

Adopted.

Paragraph 12.

No objections?

Adopted.

Paragraph 13.

Again to be completed by the Secretariat.

Adopted.

Now, VIII. Capacity-Building in Space Law.

Paragraph 14.

A statement of fact.

Adopted.

Paragraph 15.

The chapeau, sub-paragraph (a).

Sub-paragraph (b).

Sub-paragraph (c).

Sub-paragraph (d).

Paragraph 15 as a whole. Any comments or objections?

Yes, the distinguished representative of Colombia.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Good morning Mr. Chairman. Thank you. We do not see reflected the proposal made by Colombia, supported by some GRULAC State members, on using the Regional Centres as centres for capacity-building.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, but, distinguished representative of Colombia, this is the enumeration of documents that had been at the disposal of the Subcommittee while you are speaking about the proposal of your country and of the GRULAC countries. So perhaps it should go to another paragraph. And the Secretary just brought to my attention that it is in paragraph 24, "The Subcommittee noted that the Regional Centres for Space Science and Technology Education affiliated to the United Nations could play an important role in supporting capacity-building in space law". So we will come to it later.

So I would now like to close the discussion on paragraph 15 which just enumerates the documents that were before the Subcommittee. Do you agree with this procedure? Very well.

So paragraph 15, no other comments?

Adopted.

Paragraph 16.

Any comments or objections?

I see none.

Paragraph 16 is adopted.

Paragraph 17.

No comments or no objections?

Adopted.

Paragraph 18.

Just a reflection of the view of one delegation.

Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of China.

Mr. Y. XU (China): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just as you said that we hope that that view was not only expressed by one delegation, we hope that we can change it into "some delegations expressed the view" because as we know that many delegations put that as closely between this item to the national legislation item. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Is this amendment acceptable to all delegations in this room?

I see no objections so perhaps indeed we should change the text by saying "some delegations expressed the view that".

It is so decided.

Paragraph 19.

Any comments on paragraph 19?

No objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 20.

Any comments or suggestions to amend it?

The distinguished representative of China has the floor.

Mr. Y. XU (China): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I wonder whether we can give a more higher appreciation to the Office for Outer Space Affairs. We might change "noted with appreciation" into "welcomed". I think we should welcome the efforts made by the Office for Outer Space Affairs rather than noted with appreciation. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, is this supported by others? Yes, I see Greece nodding. Yes. So that it should read “The Subcommittee welcomed that”, yes, like this? Or if you wish “The Subcommittee welcomed with appreciation that”? As you like it. Yes? So the last wording?

Mr. Y. XU (China): Mr. Chairman, I think we can be satisfied with “welcomed”. We do not need “with appreciation”.

The CHAIRMAN: OK, thank you for your cooperation. So it will read as follows: “The Subcommittee welcomed that in response” and so on and so on. Thank you.

Any other comments on this paragraph?

I see none.

Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21.

Any comments on paragraph 21?

I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 22.

Any comments or objections?

I see none.

Paragraph 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23.

No objections?

Adopted.

Paragraph 24.

No objections?

Adopted.

Sorry, the distinguished representative of Algeria has the floor.

Mr. A.-S. KEDJAR (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On paragraph 22, at the end in the French version, last line,

it says “and representative of Regional Centres participated”. It has to be “participated”. This refers to the French version only.

The CHAIRMAN: I understand this relates only to the French version.

Mr. A.-S. KEDJAR (*interpretation from French*): Yes, the French version.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): Thank you very much distinguished representative of Algeria.

(*Continued in English*) The distinguished representative of Colombia.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you Mr. Chairman again. On the same paragraph, as a matter of procedure, I do not understand, sorry for that, who is supposed to transmit in writing the draft of the curriculum?

The CHAIRMAN: Through the Office for Outer Space Affairs? Member States? It should be transmitted by member States, by States members? No?

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is the comments of delegations that were present in the current session. We will adjust the paragraph to make it a little bit more clearer.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you have a formulation? We can return to this observation later if you wish.

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The formulation could possibly be as follows: “The Subcommittee recommended that comments on the preliminary draft curriculum on space law should be transmitted by delegations in writing through ...”.

The CHAIRMAN: “by delegations” should be included there?

But is it really correct to say “by delegations” because delegations are delegations to this session? I think by member States. Yes? Because delegations come just for the session of a body and as soon as the body and terminates its deliberations, they are no longer delegations. For the next session, there will be

another delegation coming. Maybe it is composed of the same people but it is a new delegation.

Yes, the distinguished representative of Colombia.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you again Mr. Chairman and thank you to Madam Rodrigues for improving the text. As we discussed yesterday on the scheme of cooperation in order to exchange information on national legislations, I thought I understood that we would concentrate the legislations that we have at our disposal on a database that would be made accessible by the Secretary so that other countries can consult and there would be common criteria to be started, let us say, in an interactive manner by delegations and the Secretariat. I do not understand wrongly the improvements to the proposal.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, our Secretary has the floor.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, thank you very much. Of course, as the distinguished delegate of Colombia noted, we discussed that in the Working Group on National Legislation yesterday. Delegations will see in Addenda.3, which is the last part of the Subcommittee report, that specifically this mention of the existing database on national space legislation that the Office has on its website is mentioned there with the appropriate address to the website and that member States are encouraged to update their legislation, to send in their Acts to the database. So it will be reflected in the part of the report that addresses national space legislation.

The CHAIRMAN: Colombia, yes.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): I thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you Niklas. So it means that there is a regular exchange and there is a free input, let us say, yes, for delegations wishing to do so? Yes? Free input?

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Colombia. I now give the floor to the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is about number 24, you know the Subcommittee noted that the Regional

Centres. Absolutely I heard during the discussions most of these Centres do not have the experts. So we need experts to help in these matters, either through the Office or through the ...

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, in fact, distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia, we will have perhaps your concern reflected in the following paragraph 25. Please read in a preliminary way paragraph 25 and we will then return to your suggestion.

The distinguished representative of Greece.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Good morning to everybody. I would on this opportunity to ask if there is somewhere in this part of the report mention of my appeal to the various countries to produce, not English- or not French-speaking, to produce their legislative texts into English and/or French, at least into English in order to have access to them. And I mention not only Spanish but also Russian, Chinese, Japanese, all languages in which we, it is impossible or very difficult to have direct access. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much but you are speaking about the legislative documents, the legislative Acts, if I heard you. The laws?

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): The national laws.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes but that which relates to this of our report. Should it not be related to another part of the report dealing with national laws?

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yes, when we will discuss, you may return to it and remind us about it.

So now I think that the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia had the opportunity to read both paragraph 24 and paragraph 25 and is it now satisfactory for him having these two paragraphs? Yes?

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): No, paragraph 25, it is just only talking with respect to material resources and I think it is not the material sources, it is actually the experts who will be teaching the law. Because the material we are getting it from the database.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, so do you wish to add your point to paragraph 25 or to include it still in paragraph 24?

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): I think in 24 it would be more.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you have a formulation?

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): Just only by including experts from either the Office for Outer Space Affairs or international organizations.

The CHAIRMAN: So we will leave paragraph 24 open because the Secretariat needs some time for drafting this amendment and we will return to it as soon as this draft amendment is ready. So paragraph 24 is not yet adopted. We will return to it.

Now paragraph 25.

The distinguished representative of Greece.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I think to satisfy the proposal of our colleague from Saudi Arabia, we can add at the end of the paragraph 25, after “with respect to human and material resources” and then I think human or experts and material resources and like this, I think, our colleague will be happy and know to proceed in a new wording of the paragraph 24. I think it should be possible to do that.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. So we have here a suggestion from our distinguished colleague from Greece that at the end of the paragraph, in the last line of paragraph 25, we could simply add “human and”, it means that the last line would read as follows: “particularly with respect to human and material resources, would need to be addressed”. Is this so as you suggested? Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: The distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): I do not think that it is human because we have human which is actually, we need an expert, just not been _____(?) (*not clear*) this.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, I took note of your observation but before continuing, I will still give the floor to the distinguished representative of Nigeria and then to China.

Mr. A. OTEPOLA (Nigeria): Thank you Mr. Chairman. With respect to this particular paragraph, if we want to have a list of the kind of adequate support that we envisage, probably if we add the word “human” which, in this particular context, can also refer to experts, then we also suggest that we add the epithet “financial” because we all know that the state of some of these Regional Centres is financially not healthy.

The CHAIRMAN: I understand your suggestion so this is another suggestion and then we will decide on it. Thank you very much distinguished representative of Nigeria.

Now I give the floor to the distinguished representative of China.

Mr. Y. XU (China): Thank you Mr. Chairman. China have the same concerns as voiced by Saudi Arabia. We do not understand human resources into ... (*no microphone*) ... Sorry about that. Thank you Mr. Chairman. We do have the same concerns just as voiced by the distinguished delegate of Saudi Arabia. It seems to me the human resources are more like talking about how many persons working in that Centre but we think maybe we should add expertise rather than human resources. We talk about the experts, the knowledge of expertise.

So another issue we have to think about that although we have to try to provide a lot of adequate(?) support for the Regional Support but at the same time we have to be very careful not to be intrusive to them, the management of these Regional Centres. So we have to be very careful about that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand and we have taken note of it.

Yes, I have another application from the distinguished delegation of the United States.

Mr. K. HODGKINS (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, paragraph 25 reflects the view of one delegation so I am not quite sure why we are negotiating changes to a paragraph that reflected the view of one delegation and that delegation made the statement and we should take it as fact. Now, if we wanted to change paragraph 24 along the lines with what people have been discussing, then that is fine, but the practice is barren(?) if the view was expressed and that was the view. So I am really at a loss as to why we are spending all this time trying to

interpret what one delegation meant to say. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished representative of the United States. I believe you are right. Indeed, if it is the view of one delegation, we should be as correct as possible and correctly reflecting the view that was really expressed. And if something should be improved or completed, it should be indeed the wording of paragraph 24.

Do you agree with this opinion distinguished representative of Colombia?

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I thank you to the distinguished colleague from the United States for his remarks. We think that some other delegations are trying to improve that proposal by that particular delegation because they have also a commitment to their proposal. So it is not the view of one single delegation has been expressed but also the improvements of other delegations that would like to contribute to that view so it is not, I do not think it is a single particular view of a delegation since some other countries have been working on it to improve it.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Colombia but our usual practice is that the report reflects only the views of the delegations that were really spelt out, that had been during the discussion that had been spelt out. We do not admit association of other delegations to the view of one country made during the consideration of the report because this would not reflect the real deliberations that were developed. So I am sorry if it was really only the view of one delegation so it must be reflected as the view was expressed. If there were some other delegations and you could indicate which statement the other delegation made such, expressed such a view, then it would be some delegations, but our usual procedure is as I have just explained. Sorry.

Greece, yes.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): Thank you very much. Thanks to my colleague from the United States. I have to apologize to open the discussion on this because I do not see that it was one of the view. And on this opportunity, I have to underline what you just said to our distinguished colleague from Colombia concerning the procedure. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Greece. Perhaps we could ask our

Secretariat to check once again whether indeed the text of paragraph 25 reflects the view that was expressed by one delegation, by a specific delegation. You have the floor.

Mr. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Indeed, paragraph 25 is reflective of the original state of one particular delegation. That said, there was a discussion by various other delegations regarding the lack of expertise, particularly within the African region. Those views and the debate that ensued and that is actually reflected in paragraph 36. I do not know that necessarily helps the debate that we are currently having but at least just to bring to your attention that there is a reflection to the fact that particularly the African region does have difficulties regarding local experts available to teach space law. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished Deputy Secretary but paragraph 26 as well reflects the view of one delegation. Paragraph 36 yes? I understood 26, sorry.

So we will have this idea reflected in paragraph 36 and we will return to it when discussing paragraph 36.

Colombia.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the clarification on the traditional procedures that we follow in this forum. Thank you to Greece also for the explanation. And at this moment, sorry for my ignorance, but I would like to know how would be the proper procedure to include the concern of those delegations that share the same concern? If not now, what would be the appropriate document or the appropriate moment to include those different new views on resources and so on?

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Colombia. You cannot improve the reflection of the views pronounced during the discussion on the item when discussing the report. This is no longer possible. It is too late for it. But I would like to draw once again your attention as suggested by our distinguished colleague from the Secretariat that under paragraph 36, you have some delegations expressed and when discussing paragraph 36 we can still draw attention to your suggestion. But in paragraph 25, it is just the view of one delegation and it should be reflected as it was really presented.

I am sorry but this is a rule. This is a rule that we adopted and that we apply it in practice for many, many years, not half a century but many years, for decade I would say.

So if you understand me, thank you very much for your cooperation.

So let us know approve paragraph 25 provided that we will return to the ideas of our distinguished colleague from Colombia when discussing later on paragraph 36.

Any other comments or suggestions?

None.

Adopted.

Paragraph 24 is still open. This I would like to reiterate.

Paragraph 26.

Again a reflection of one view so I see no comments. Thank you.

Adopted.

Paragraph 27.

Just a statement of facts and support of the full Subcommittee.

Adopted.

Paragraph 28.

Again a reflection of one view.

Adopted.

Paragraph 29.

Do you agree?

Adopted.

Paragraph 30.

The distinguished representative of Iran has the floor.

Mr. N. SHIRAZI (Islamic Republic of Iran): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In paragraph 30, my delegation proposes just a slight amendment just to add

the complete name of my respective country after "in Tehran" in the second sentence, that the Islamic Tehran and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand. So that we should add after "in Tehran" in brackets or commas "Islamic Republic of Iran". Yes, the Secretary has the floor.

Mr. N. HEDMAN (Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is an editorial issue. When there is a capital or a State reflected in the report, there is not a mentioning of the country. But if the distinguished delegate of Iran would like to replace "to be held in Tehran", it could be "to be held in the Islamic Republic of Iran in November 2009" if the city is not chosen yet or something like that. So we could replace "Tehran" by "Islamic Republic of Iran" instead but it is up to the delegation to decide.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you Mr. Secretary. The distinguished representative of Iran.

Mr. N. SHIRAZI (Islamic Republic of Iran): Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you Niklas. I think the second option is more agreeable to my delegation. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your cooperation distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Do other delegations agree with this amendment?

I see no objection.

Yes?

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): May I make a suggestion because it is a final decision to take, to hold the Workshop in Tehran so we have not another city of your country. I propose to put "Tehran" in parentheses "the Islamic Republic of Iran" because it is considered that all people know very well, if you know the geography of the capitals of 192 countries, that means you know by heart 192 capitals. Thank you very much. I think it is old tradition we do that. May I finish Mr. Hedman? We accept that there is this kind of editorial, let us say, custom up to the time that when a State(stage?) go no more than 100 but it is almost 200, so even for me it is difficult to know by heart all capitals. So we can introduce in parentheses because if you put in Athens, there is Athens in the United States. If you put Efaka(?), there are three or four Athens in

the United States, maybe in Australia, I do not know. So I think it is a good idea to put in parentheses the name of the country. I do not know, friends from the United States, how many Athens are there but there is also Rhodes. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Greece for your suggestion.

I know give the floor to the distinguished representative of China.

Mr. Y. XU (China): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just trying to solve the problem. Maybe we can read this paragraph in the following: "The Subcommittee noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran will hold the next United Nations Workshop which will be held in Tehran in November 2009." Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished representative of China. It seems to me that this is the way out of our small argument and I think it would satisfy our distinguished colleague from the Islamic Republic of Iran and I see that our Secretary is also satisfied by this solution and I thank the distinguished representative of China for his very good idea how to deal with this particular question.

Any other comment on paragraph 30?

I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 31.

Any comments on paragraph 31?

I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 32.

Yes, the just the Subcommittee noted.

No objections?

Adopted.

Paragraph 32.

Any comments or objections?

None.

Adopted.

Paragraph 33.

Any comments or objections?

None.

Adopted.

Paragraph 34.

Any comments? Any objections?

None.

Greece has the floor.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): Thank you very much. We also in our intervention quoted that in Greece also are free of charge. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: So let us simply add Greece and it would be alphabetical order, it means education institutions in France and Greece were free of charge for both national and foreign students. Does it satisfy all delegations?

France has the floor.

Mr. S. GUÉTAZ (France) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make a suggestion just before Greece spoke to add just as our delegation had said when we were referring to this point was that these scholarships in 34 indeed these courses were free of charge for both foreign and French students.

The CHAIRMAN: And the same goes for Greece as well?

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece) (*interpretation from French*): Yes, we have exactly the same system as in France. These are State subsidies, State scholarships as well as (*continued in English*) post-graduate courses which are free of every kind of charge. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: I understand and, therefore, we could formulate perhaps paragraph 34 "The Subcommittee noted that the courses on space law offered by public education institutions in France and Greece were free of charge for nationals and foreign students and that", now the idea of France

would be included. Yes? It means that scholarships are available for this purpose.

Distinguished delegates, will you agree with this amendment to paragraph 34?

I see no objection.

It is so adopted.

Paragraph 34, as amended.

Paragraph 35.

The distinguished representative of France.

Mr. S. GUÉTAZ (France) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you. To be perfectly consistent, Mr. Chairman, that scholarships could be afforded, could be extended or presented for foreign students.

The CHAIRMAN: Can you repeat the last words of your statement?

Mr. S. GUÉTAZ (France) (*interpretation from French*): Yes, that scholarships could be extended or made available for foreign students, that the scholarships could be made available for foreign students. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I think it is now more exact and more precise so I would like the Secretariat to include it in the final formulation.

Would you read the final text of this paragraph 34?

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The paragraph would read as follows: "The Subcommittee noted that the courses on space law offered by public education institutions in France and Greece were free of charge for both national and foreign students and that scholarship opportunities could be made available to foreign students."

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): Is that satisfactory for you?

Thank you very much.

(*Continued in English*) Thank you very much to both delegations, of course.

Paragraph 35.

Any comments on paragraph 35?

I see none.

Adopted.

Before proceeding with paragraph 36, ladies and gentlemen, I would suggest to return first to paragraph 24 which we suspended and I would like now to ask the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary to read the final draft of this paragraph, paragraph 24.

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Secretariat in order to try and take into account the debate we had a little bit earlier on paragraph 25.

The CHAIRMAN: Paragraph 25?

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Related to. We suggest that in paragraph 24, we add the following additional sentence so the whole paragraph 24 would be as follows: "The Subcommittee noted that the Regional Centres for Space Science and Technology Education affiliated to the United Nations could play an important role in supporting capacity-building in space law. In that context, the Subcommittee noted the views expressed by some delegations that the Centres would need assistance particularly with regard to having access to experts capable of teaching space law."

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Madam Deputy Secretary for your work and for your suggesting the text.

I now give the floor to the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): Excuse me, we do not need access, we need support, somebody to come, we need support either from the Office or from the governments or they have expertise, to come and teach in these places. It is not access because access it is easy, you know it is, through the Internet. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Could you now read once again the text and reflecting the remark made. Wait a moment please, I see another delegation, it is the distinguished delegation of India.

Mr. P. KUMAR CHAUDHARY (India): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I think to capture what the

distinguished delegate from Saudi Arabia wants to reflect here. We can add at the end of the paragraph "by providing experts". So that would take care of his concern.

And about what our distinguished Deputy Secretary has proposed, there is already capturing in paragraph 38 of the draft report. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, the distinguished representative of Colombia has the floor.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you to the Secretary for the improvements as well as to the distinguished colleagues from India and Saudi Arabia. I think that there is a concern about the resources destined(?) to those two activities. It would be, if I might suggest the Secretary to concentrate either on paragraph 24 or paragraph 38 on that particular issue of the human financial whatever resources for those activities. I think that is the core issue under concern. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Colombia.

The Secretary of our Subcommittee just requested me to suspend further consideration for 24 because the Secretariat still would be preparing the new texts and reflecting all these comments and we will in the meantime continue in the consideration of other paragraphs and I think we are at paragraph 36 now.

So let us know consider paragraph 36.

Any comments on paragraph 36?

I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 37.

It reflects the view of one delegation so are there any comments on it?

I see none.

Adopted.

Paragraph 38.

Again the view of one delegation.

Any comments?

No comments.

Adopted.

Paragraph 39.

Again a reflection of one view.

Yes, Colombia has the floor.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Sorry for coming back to 38 because I understood that we have a connection between 24 and 38 and that we are trying to do the _____ (*not clear*), is it? I think we have not finished with 38 have we? Depending on the final draft of 24, I think.

The CHAIRMAN: Paragraph 38, yes? But it is again the reflection of the view of one delegation. It is not a position of the whole Subcommittee, neither is it the expression of the views of some delegations. It is only the view was expressed and so on and so on and so it should be reflecting the view of the delegation concerned. Again, the question of procedure.

Mr. J. H. OJEDA BUENO (Colombia): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Let us say that since it has been a matter proposed by these delegations, we are pending on the final draft on the 24, we would like to see reflected the concern of resources _____ (?) to those academic activities in those Centres. Can we leave it open until we finish the 24?

The CHAIRMAN: I am ready to accommodate your request and we will leave paragraph 38 open but again I only would like to underline that this should be the view of one delegation and this view should be reflected as it had been presented before during the discussion on this item by the delegation concerned. We cannot improve this reflection. It must be an authentic reflection of the view of one delegation. But we will return to it later, yes, according to your wish.

I now have the distinguished delegation of the United States of America.

Mr. K. HODGKINS (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess from a procedural standpoint, I do not see how we can leave open a paragraph that is expressing a view or it reflects a view that was expressed by a delegation. There is

nothing to negotiate here. For my delegation, we have expressed a view during the course of the meeting and it is reflected in the report then we would expect that it would remain as reflected and if we had a problem, we would make a change to that. But to leave open a paragraph that reflects a view expressed by a particular delegation does not track with what we are trying to accomplish. Paragraph 24 needs to be seen in light of the fact that the Subcommittee is expressing a view as opposed to just a single delegation which is in paragraph 38. So I really think that you, Mr. Chairman, have to keep us a little bit disciplined here in terms of the practice of the Subcommittee otherwise we will never get done today. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished representative of the United States. Distinguished delegate, I expressed a singular view a few minutes ago and I tried to _____(?) our distinguished colleague from Colombia that such should be our procedure. However, I also wanted to accommodate his kind request so this was my good intention and, therefore, I believe that indeed we must differentiate between paragraph 24, which is stated on behalf of the Subcommittee as a whole, while paragraph 38 deals only with the view of one delegation. But let us, in order to proceed smoothly and without problems, let us first concentrate on the final text of paragraph 24.

Would you agree with my ruling distinguished representative of the United States? Yes, I see your agreement. Thank you for your cooperation.

So we now have to finalize the text of paragraph 24.

The Deputy Secretary has the floor.

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I hope this will be third lucky.

Mr. Chairman, if you will allow me, I would perhaps suggest just so that we would have an easier flow of information in the document that we leave paragraph 24 as is, followed by paragraph 25 as adopted, and then introduce a new paragraph 25 *bis*, and this would be my suggestion: "Some delegations expressed the view that the Regional Centres would also need additional financial resources and experts to teach space law."

The CHAIRMAN: Is this a formulation of a new paragraph in this part of the report that would be

as paragraph 25 *bis* acceptable? Does it accommodate? Yes, the distinguished representative of Greece.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I will express our gratitude to Madam Rodrigues for her suggestion and we support it. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for your cooperation and for the cooperation of all other delegations concerned in this point and we have adopted the text. Sorry, the distinguished representative of Japan has the floor.

Ms. C. SHIMAZU (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Through you, we would like to ask Madam Rodrigues to read it more slowly again please. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please read it once again at dictation speed.

Ms. N. RODRIGUES (Deputy Secretary, Office for Outer Space Affairs): So just to confirm paragraph 24, no changes, paragraph 25 as is, then paragraph 25 *bis* would read as follows: "Some delegations expressed the view that the Regional Centres would also need additional financial resources and experts to teach space law."

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you. So is this text acceptable as a new paragraph 25 *bis*?

I see no objections.

It is adopted.

Now paragraph 38 is under consideration. But I repeat that it should be the reflection of the view of one delegation only.

I see other comments.

Adopted.

Paragraph 39.

No comments?

Greece has the floor.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, just for the records, there is already established a Centre for this region with a seat in Jordan but it does not yet function. Just for the records, to be our colleagues to be informed

about the situation from the institutional point of view. I cannot add anything but maybe the colleague or the delegation who expressed it, this view was not aware about the existing situation for Regional Centres. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

The distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia has the floor.

Mr. M. A. TARABZOUNI (Saudi Arabia): Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you for the delegation of Greece for this information. I know about this but really we would like to finalize it. It is actually either Jordan will have it or if they do not have it, then we will have another Arab country from the Western(?) Asia(?) to make the Centres.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, I thank you distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Yes, of course, we should proceed like this but perhaps it would not be good to reflect here the state of affairs with Jordan but to leave the request for establishing such a Centre here in paragraph 39.

Is it acceptable this explanation for you? Yes. Thank you.

So paragraph 39 is adopted as it is.

Adopted.

Paragraph 40.

Again a statement of fact. Does it reflect the views of Argentina and Brazil? Yes.

Thank you very much for your cooperation distinguished delegations of Argentina and Brazil.

Adopted.

Paragraph 41.

Any comments?

None.

Adopted.

Paragraph 42.

It is the request of some delegations so I think it could be adopted as it is.

Adopted.

Paragraph 43.

Any comments or objections?

None.

Adopted.

Paragraph 44.

Any comments?

No comments or objections.

Adopted.

Paragraph 45. The Subcommittee recommended in 45, yes.

Any comments or objections?

None.

Adopted.

Paragraph 46.

Again to be completed by the Secretariat.

Adopted.

So now we finish the Addendum.2 of L.276 and I think we now should proceed with the consideration of the report of the two Working Groups. First Working Group 4 and then Working Group 11.

So I would know like to suspend the meeting of the Subcommittee and kindly request the Chairman of the Working Group 4, Mr. Cassapoglou, to take over the guidance and for the adoption of the report of the Working Group 4.

Still one more information for the delegations. It means that another part of our draft report is prepared, it is the draft report of the Chairperson of the Working Group on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space which is being now distributed as document A/AC.105/C.2/2009/LEG/L.1. Of course, the draft report of the Chairman of the Working Group on Item 4 was already distributed earlier this morning and you have it at your disposal so that you know possess the draft reports of both Working Groups that should be

discussed now. First, it is Working Group 4 and then Working Group 11. Thank you very much.

The meeting is suspended.

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 a.m.