

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space***Unedited transcript*

611<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Friday, 12 June 2009, 10 a.m.  
Vienna

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*Chairman:* Mr. Ciro Arévalo Yepes (Colombia)

*The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.*

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Good morning one and all. The assembly is sparsely inhabited here, I think that the Austrian reception was a very successful one. I would like to thank the interpreters for the effectiveness of their work and for their generosity as well.

I would now like to call to order the 611th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. This morning we are going to be examining agenda item 16. Before I go on to agenda item 16, I would like to give the floor to Dr. Mazlan Othman straight away.

**Ms. M. OTHMAN** (Director, OOSA) Thank you Mr. Chairman. Distinguished delegates, as you may recall from my statement which I gave last Friday, in 2011 we will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the first session of the Committee as well as the fiftieth anniversary of the first human space flight by Yuri Gagarin and Alan Shepherd. The Office has already started preparations within the Secretariat to commemorate these anniversaries, such as a commemorative stamp series to be issued by the United Nations Postal Administration. The Office would be willing to coordinate with member States on commemorative activities to be held in the Vienna International Centre during the sessions of the Committee and subcommittees. Such activities would involve a large exhibition on COPUOS and human space flight to be held in the VIC Rotunda in June 2011, possibly a photo exhibition and also screenings of space-related movies. If the Committee so decides, Mr. Chairman, the Office will begin preparations following the conclusion of this session and will

inform delegates of the developments and how to participate. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Madam Othman, Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs for that statement. This was a very important statement indeed.

We are now going to be starting with the adoption of the report. I would like to say that yesterday we did fine work on the various agenda items, we have spoken about the future activities of the Committee, this is something that is very important indeed and I believe that this is something which should be continuously subjected to debate and consideration.

I would also like to point out that, in December this year, we are going to be having a meeting staged, a very important United Nations meeting on climate change, it will be on the United Nations Convention on Climate Change and, within the context of that meeting, we are going to be dealing with the most important questions. We are going to be speaking about climate change in our world and I believe that it would be very important to have our Committee, COPUOS, represented in that meeting. To the extent possible, I will myself be participating in that meeting because I believe that will certainly enrich the work of the Committee. If there are no objections in the room, I will be attending that meeting.

I think that we can now commence consideration of A/AC.105/L.275, this is a document which is available in all of the working languages.

Secretariat for comments.

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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.



**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Secretariat would like to just call your attention to the documents and with the documents that will be distributed this morning.

All delegations already have, in all languages, the first part of the report with symbol L.275, it was already out yesterday and this is the part we will begin with. All delegations should also have, in all languages, L.275/Add.1. During the course of this meeting, the Secretariat will distribute the remaining parts of the report in Conference Room III, which means in here, and that would be Add.2 to L.275 and the last part of the draft report, Add.3 to L.275.

The Secretariat has also distributed this morning CRP.19 which contains the statement made by Germany under agenda item 7, report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-sixth session, and this was upon a request by delegations yesterday to have this statement distributed in a conference room paper, and it relates to the discussion yesterday on the agreement regarding the issue of space debris.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the Secretariat has also distributed CRP.20 containing proposed additional paragraphs for the draft report of the Committee and, just to clarify, these additional paragraphs are proposed to be incorporated in the section on space debris under the report of the forty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee which is in Add.1 to L.275. When you look at CRP.20, you will see there the proposed paragraphs and deletion of a previous paragraph in that \_\_\_\_ (?), so this we will come to later when we deal with Add.1 but just for your information. So these are the documents that you have before you and documents that you will get later on this morning.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. The Secretariat has demonstrated its legendary efficiency, you have even been able to take due account of what was said by the Chair, so I would like to ask you to include, in the last part, everything that was said.

So we are now straight away going to be taking up A/AC.105/L.275, Introduction. We are going to, as usual, be examining this paragraph by paragraph, so we are going to be adopting this para by para and then the report as a whole.

Let us take chapter I, Introduction.

*Approved.*

(a) Meetings of subsidiary bodies, paragraph 2.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 3.

*Approved.*

(b) Adoption of the agenda, paragraph 4.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 5. Please check through this paragraph just to make sure that your country is mentioned in this paragraph.

*Approved.*

(d) Attendance, paragraph 6.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 7.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 8.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 9.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 10.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 11.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 12. Secretariat on this paragraph.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) In paragraph 12, the reference to the list of participants in INF/1, there will be an addition and Corr.1, which is the corrigenda that has been distributed to all delegations.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you.

*Paragraph 12 is approved as just amended by the Secretariat.*

We are now on (e) general statements.

Paragraph 13. In paragraph 13, we are going to be including a reference to Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

*Paragraph 13 is approved as amended.*

Paragraph 14.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 15.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 16.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 17. Chile has the floor.

**Mr. J. IGLESIAS MORI** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Chairman. My delegation believes that, what we see here in 17 does not exactly reflect what was said in the course of the meeting. Here we read, the view was expressed that, actually the delegation of Chile made a proposal that the G15 should advise the Secretary-General on issues relating to space for development. So there was a proposal made by Chile and you, Chairman, asked the various delegations whether there were any objections to that and there were none to that proposal. Consequently, I believe that one can say that this proposal was a sound proposal, a good proposal, consequently the Committee decided that the issue of the use of outer space required a stronger platform and that it was necessary also to set up a mechanism advising the Secretary-General. Rather than saying, the view was expressed that, I think that is too restrictive, that language, I believe that one should say, the Committee decided that, or, agreed that, either decided or agreed that, and then, that mechanism to advise the Secretary-General that etc. But one should also refer to G15, I believe that should be reflected in this paragraph. Thank you very much.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. So, there is a suggested amendment to paragraph 17 which reflects the debate that took place on this issue.

Switzerland you have the floor.

**Ms. N. ARCHINARD** (Switzerland) Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am sorry I would have to come back to paragraph 16, so I do not know if you want to close 17 before I speak.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, I would prefer not to go back, I think that we have to be careful and attentive and we have to keep going. Now it is 17 which is under consideration.

Chile, could they possibly repeat the proposal on 17?

**Mr. J. IGLESIAS MORI** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. I think it is more practical to read the entire paragraph and not just the beginning. The same paragraph 17, the Commission agreed that the peaceful uses of outer space needs a stronger platform within the United Nations system and that a mechanism should be established so that this group of 15 advise the Secretary-General on matters related to space and development.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, if there are no .. Yes, United States.

**Mr. K. HODGKINS** (United States of America) Thank you Mr. Chairman. I do recall the proposal but I was not quite clear at the time whether we were being asked to agree in final on that proposal or whether we are going to have an opportunity to discuss this further because there are a couple of questions that the Committee needs to ask.

The first one is, we make reference to the G15. Now, is that an established group, authorized by the Committee? My understanding is that this was more of an informal group of former, current and future members of the Bureau and that we would set this up for the purpose of continuity among the officers of the Bureau but not necessarily to replace the Committee as the sole representative on space matters within the UN system. That would be the first question I think that we should ask is we make reference to the G15, well here we have COPUOS, we have a Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, we have a Legal Subcommittee, now we have a G15, I am not sure how that hangs together.

Secondly, if the Secretary-General needs an advisory board on space matters then why bother with the Committee and why bother with the Fourth Committee and why bother with the interagency meeting on space that coordinates the space activities within the UN system. I understand the sentiment here that we wanted to raise the visibility of space within the UN but it begs the question then, if the Committee cannot do that then why would an advisory board necessarily be able to do that. Has the Secretary-General asked us for an advisory board? How do you set up an advisory board in any case within the UN

system? Is this directing the Secretary-General to set up an advisory board on space? Is this the way the UN works? I guess I would look for some other views on this but I am hesitant for us to agree on a recommendation that may not be possible to implement and that would make the Committee look rather foolish, if we are making recommendations that we know up front cannot be fulfilled within the UN system because of organizational and other policy issues. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. Really, I do not want to open any substantive debate here and so let me ask the Chile delegation if we can get some kind of wording that would reflect the position of their delegation and we will set this matter aside for the time being then, on the basis of what you propose in writing and in the light of what was just said by the United States which does not agree with the wording here, we come back to this before we finalize the first part of the report. Would you agree?

**Mr. J. IGLESIAS MORI** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes, I think this was really intended more for style purposes, we did not really intend to go into substance but we think that since we have this G15 it would be useful to use this. In order not to prolong the debate, let me say that the opinion was expressed, that is true, that the peaceful uses of outer space needed a stronger platform within the United Nations system and that there should be a mechanism to set up to advise the Secretary-General on matters related to space and development, as the G15 is doing. Would you be satisfied with that wording? I think it is fairly acceptable to use that wording, ideally we would want this form to better reflect the fact that we agreed on this need but if there is no consensus on this, well we would of course join the consensus.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me thank the Chilean delegation for that cooperative attitude. So I think it can remain as it stands.

*If that is the case, then 17 is adopted as it stands.*

Paragraph 18.

Distinguished delegate of Switzerland wanted to return to 16, is that so? We did adopt this already. Is it a substance question?

**Ms. N. ARCHINARD** (Switzerland) (*interpretation from French*) No, Chair there is no

substantive change, it is just in the English version which currently talks about, the long term sustainability of space exploration activities. It seems to me that exploration activities, well it would be better to say space activities or spatial activities, the long-term sustainability of space activities, instead of exploration activities.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Well, it is not up to the Secretariat to decide, this is a reflection of what some delegations expressed during the debate. Our impression was that it was actually referring to long-term sustainability of space exploration activities but, of course, with the consent of all delegations, we would be willing to put, long-term sustainability of space activities but it is for the delegations to decide.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, of course the delegations who are sovereign but we just wanted you to clarify this point.

Would the house agree with the proposed amendment from Switzerland? I am looking at France above all.

**Mr. S. GUÉTAZ** (France) (*interpretation from French*) Yes, we also find that the Swiss proposal is more correct and we would support it.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) If that is the case and there are no objections then the paragraph remains as approved.

*It is therefore adopted with the Swiss amendment.*

This brings us back to 19.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 20.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 21.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 22.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 23.

*Adopted.*

(f) Adoption of the report of the Committee

Paragraph 24.

*Adopted.*

The rest is just the traditional text.

Chapter 2, recommendations and decisions

Bolivia. On which topic?

**Mr. P. MARCA PACO** (Bolivia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Please allow me to return to (d). It was already mentioned that we would change the reference to the non-governmental organizations I think yesterday afternoon, I do not know if that was done. If it was not done, let me just say that we had to give a clear identity of who were intergovernmental observers and who are non-governmental observers, just to make that clarification.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) We noted this observation in the final report with the classification of these entities.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) If I understand the proposal by Bolivia on paragraph 10, it relates to paragraph 10 and it could then read as follows: the session was attended by observers of the following international intergovernmental organizations, and there we include the intergovernmental organizations listed in this paragraph and then, the session was also attended by observers of the following non-governmental organizations, and there we list the non-governmental organizations as contained in this paragraph. So we could do one paragraph but it would distinguish between intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, that is how the Secretariat understands the rephrasing of this, proposed by Bolivia.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much to the Secretariat.

Back to paragraph 25.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 26.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 27.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 28.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 29.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 30.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 31. Secretariat has the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) In paragraph 31 we have now the exact dates for the African Leadership Conference to be held in 2009, so on the last line, to be held in Algeria in November and December 2009, would be replaced by the following, to be held in Algeria from 30 November to 2 December 2009.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Secretariat for that additional bit of text indicating the dates in paragraph 31.

*With that change, paragraph 31 is adopted.*

Paragraph 32.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 33.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 34.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 35.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 36.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 37.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 38.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 39.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 40.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 41. Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) Thank you Mr. Chairman. What do we mean here by, the establishment of formal links in some cases. Which types of cases are these? Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) The Secretariat has just informed me that this is the faithful reflection of what was expressed during the discussion but, to satisfy the Nigerian delegation, the Secretariat would like to propose something that was said and I give the floor to the Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Thank you Mr. Chairman. One way could be as follows, I am reading now the last line, it was important to establish more formal links.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. I see the distinguished delegate from Nigeria nodding consent.

*It is adopted.*

Paragraph 42.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 43.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 44.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 45.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 46. Germany has the floor.

**Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN** (Germany) I would like to refer to the amendment, paragraphs 45*bis* to 45*sexies*, which has been distributed as CRP.20. First, it is the understanding of my and the Italian delegation that in 45*bis* the reference made to ..

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) One clarification first by the Secretariat if I might because you are right in which the issue you are raising, I would like the Secretariat to speak first.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Thank you Mr. Chairman. The text in CRP.20 will be dealt with when we come to L.275/Add.1, subsection 3, space debris, and that is on page 6 in L.275/Add.1 where we would be with the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-sixth session. There we will come to this issue and the text as produced in CRP.20.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Secretariat. China.

**Mr. Y. XU** (China) Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am still wondering whether we can get a further clarification from the Secretariat because in CRP.20, the first amendment is placed in the deleted paragraph 41, which we have adopted. I think perhaps we have look clearly. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you China. Let the Secretariat take the floor to clarify this.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Just to explain to delegations that the drafting of CRP.20 was made very late last evening so the Secretariat apologizes for any confusion to this CRP.20 and I will now explain it so that it is clear to all delegations.

CRP.20, the deletion of paragraph 41 and the additional paragraphs 45*bis*, *ter*, *quater*, *quinquies*, whatever sixth is, they relate to the section on space debris in L.275/Add.1, so it is the matter of space debris under the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session. Of course, the Secretariat should have put it more clearly in the heading of CRP.20 and when we realized this mistake it was too late but I hope that I have been clear. We will come to this in Add.1 when we deal with the section on space debris. I am sorry for this confusion.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me ask the delegate from China to use his traditional skills in patience and take note of the extraordinary work done by the Secretariat on this topic. This addendum of course will be included in the report as he pointed out in that way.

Colombia.

**Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO** (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Just one clarification please from the Secretariat that paragraph 41 of the text we have before us, remains as it is, 41, is that so?

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Fine, let us continue with our report.

We are on paragraph 46 now.

*Adopted.*

This takes us to section B, paragraph 47.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 48.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 49. Japan has the floor on paragraph 49.

**Mr. K. MIYAZAKI** (Japan) A presentation Japan gave under this agenda item is missing here, so the presentation regarding space education, we would like to add the presentation here. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) We are fully aware of that presentation and we are checking here whether we put it under space and society. We have a presentation under the section of the report on space and society and I am just reading it to see if it is the same, introduction of a tool for space education by the representative of Japan. Is that the presentation that the distinguished delegate of Japan is referring to? That is placed under space and society which is in Add.3 that delegations will have before them later on, so you can come back to this and see whether you want it placed there or under UNISPACE III.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Japan.

*With that we can adopt paragraph 49.*

Paragraph 50.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 51.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 52. Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) I am sorry Mr. Chairman my earphone does not plug in so I need to take you back to 51. I am really surprised that if one were to read 51 through 60, on the last section of 51 it says, the conference has been held with severe time and resource constraints, that could be picked up as a measure of success of the conference, I find that to be very surprising. I would like the Secretariat to re-read the whole text on page 9 and probably reconstruct that particular paragraph. I would not like to believe that we had severe time and resource constraints, as a representative measure of the success of UNISPACE III. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) I believe, distinguished delegate from Nigeria, that you are right. Could you be kind enough to propose a written text that reflects what you have just said here, this would help the Secretariat.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) I do not have any text ready but I know the Secretariat has all the information.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) OK, thank you for your cooperation.

Professor Kopal.

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic) Just the formulation that I would like to suggest, indeed the words, particularly since, are not quite appropriate here and I would suggest, despite the fact that the conference had been held with serious time and resource constraints.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) So, despite the fact that, instead of, particularly since, I think that would fit perfect.

With that amendment, again thank you Professor Kopal.

Mexico has the floor.

**Mr. S. CAMACHO-LARA** (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Chair. Building on the proposal from Professor Kopal maybe, in the last part here, we could say what the truth really was of this, had been held within the existing resources of the organization, instead of, with severe time and resource constraints, I think it is a little bit more positive in that way. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you distinguished delegate from Mexico. Indeed, many of the reflections that were expressed here reflect your words, I think it is important not to send a message here but that it was done in the conditions that you have just described. It is with the resources that were available at that time.

Are there no objections to those amendments?

*We can adopt this paragraph.*

Paragraph 52.

*Adopted.*

I have two delegations on paragraph 53. First Syria and then Nigeria.

**Mr. O. AMMAR** (Syrian Arab Republic) (*interpretation from Arabic*) Thank you Chair. My remark just has to do with the Arabic language version and it is untranslatable because it is only really doing with the Arabic text. If there is an Arabic speaking person in the Secretariat they should take note of our purely linguistic observation. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me thank the delegate from Syria. Is it something in particular that, even if it is linguistic, can you explain to us what exactly you want to change even in Arabic.

**Mr. O. AMMAR** (Syrian Arab Republic) (*interpretation from Arabic*) It is a change of one single word in the Arabic text, which I cannot translate. If you do not understand Arabic it is impossible to explain which word I want to change for the other.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) After this session, distinguished delegate from Syria, we will ask you to give this to us in writing, give it to the Secretariat for that correction

since there are words that seem to be impossible to translate.

Thank you very much. Nigeria has the floor.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) Thank you Mr. Chairman. I think it might be preferable to use the word, establishment, instead of, creation, in paragraph 53. The Committee noted that the establishment. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Nigeria. Yes, we have got the word in Spanish, establecimiento, which is very close to what you said. That change will be made.

Professor Kopal has the floor under 53.

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic) Just a minor question. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, whether the term, voluntary leadership of member States, is quite appropriate. The term, leadership. Voluntary participation of member States, but not leadership.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Quite sharp observations. In general, we do not need to be voluntary because this is the nature itself of the effort. So I think it would be better to say, participation, here, voluntary participation. Another contribution that I think we can accept. So, voluntary contribution, might even be better.

The Secretariat says that it would change the overall sense of the sentence so, let me give the floor to the Secretariat for their observations on these two proposals. First let us hear Mexico, maybe they can help.

**Mr. S. CAMACHO-LARA** (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Chair. Like the Secretariat I think this changes the thrust. Voluntary contributions have been made for a long time now from the very outset of space programmes. The innovative thing, what the Committee decided was the leadership of States, so what we could perhaps say or do is, delete the word voluntary, and just say, under the leadership of member States. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Mexico. Voluntary participation, might also lead one to think we are talking about budget terms here, we were talking about the leadership of these action teams. Does the Secretariat feel more comfortable with that proposal?

You have the floor Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just to read out how the Secretariat understands the latest proposal, so it would read as follows. The Committee noted that the establishment of action teams, under the leadership of member States, had provided a unique mechanism and innovative strategy in implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) *If there are no other remarks I think we can adopt paragraph 53 as proposed.*

Let us move on to paragraph 54.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 55.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 56.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 57.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 58.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 59.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 60.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 61.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 62.

*Adopted.*

Can you just confirm under paragraph 60 that this is the right wording? Is it UNISPACE III plus 5 or plus 10?

Plus 5 because we cannot talk about UNISPACE III plus 10 but only plus 5, which is the one that produced recommendations.

Colombia. Thank you Colombia.

Paragraph 62 now.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 63.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 64.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 65.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 66. Chile has the floor on paragraph 66.

**Mr. J. IGLESIAS MORI** (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Chair. Just a suggestion. In the first and second lines it says, global health was one of the themes. Well, global health in space is a theme which might be useful in light of the possible implications that we saw in the different technical presentations. Global health might come under space applications and pandemics, if there was consensus on that point.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Chile. You are right, that is how I remembered that this was dealt with. That this was taken from the angle of space technology and pandemics, something that is very important. You know that yesterday WHO raised the alert level, so I think we need to make that correction along the lines of the Chilean proposal, if there are no objections.

*With that change, paragraph 66 can be adopted.*

Paragraph 67.

**Ms. C. REINPRECHT** (Austria) Thank you Mr. Chairman. My apologies for coming back to 65, just a question regarding the wording. We are saying here, the implementation and follow-up of UNISPACE III would go a long way in helping member States. May I ask the Secretariat maybe to clarify what is

exactly meant by, would go a long way. It seems to be a bit of a clumsy formulation maybe we could clarify that. We have no hard feelings on this, this is just a question to the Secretariat whether we could improve the wording there. Thank you very much.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much the distinguished delegate from Austria. Let me invite the Secretariat.

**Ms. S. DE CARTIER** (Belgium) It could help greatly, is what we read in French, maybe that can help you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Belgo-Austrian cooperation. What does the Secretariat say to this proposal?

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) I was going to respond to the Austrian proposal but I will do that and then we can discuss whether the Belgian proposal is maybe better. It could read as follows: management and overall resource management would assist member States to support the sustainable development needs and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. So it would be, would assist, instead of, go a long way in helping.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Ok. We have a proposal from Austria that the Secretariat has noted attentively, also from Belgium, also China's remarks on 67.

**Mr. Y. XU** (China) On this issue perhaps I can also the Chinese version of this text. We go along with the French text, will help greatly. I can agree with the new proposal from the Secretariat but we think that we need some strong words not only, assist. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Secretariat. Could the Secretariat give us the final version?

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) I will read it out. So it will be as follows. Management and overall resource management would greatly help member States to support their sustainable development needs and achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me ask the three delegations whether they are satisfied with that wording.

*If that is the case, paragraph 65, with that amendment, is adopted.*

Paragraph 67 is clarified and I see no objections.

*Adopted.*

So, A/AC.105/L.275 as a whole, I submit to you as a whole. If there are no observations on the document as a whole? Libya has asked for the floor.

**Mr. E. GASHUT** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) (*interpretation from Arabic*) Sorry, Mr. Chairman, for taking you back to 67 which refers to the UNISPACE report. The Jamahiriya has celebrated the week and we presented the report to the relevant committee, however, this was not referred to. Maybe this could be taken into consideration. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me thank the delegate from the Jamahiriya. The Secretariat is consulting on this.

I give the floor to the Secretariat on this topic.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) One proposal could be to add a paragraph 68 to read as follows. The Committee welcomed reports by member States on their activities relating to the celebration of World Space Week 2008.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much, Secretariat. The Secretariat has just made a proposal to us. Are there several States that have presented reports along these lines? Several States presented such reports. It is the sort of language that is traditionally used. Can we consider that this paragraph is approved?

No objections.

*It is so decided.*

I believe that we can consider that A/AC.105/L.275 stands approved.

*It is so decided.*

We are going to have a short break and, during this break, we are going to be distributing L.275/Add.2 to all delegations.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) We are going to be resuming our work now. This document has now been distributed to you, A/AC.105/L.275/Add.1.

Chapter 2, recommendations and decisions.  
Could I please have a Spanish version text.

I now have the Spanish version, we can now start.

Chapter 2, recommendations and decisions.

Paragraph 1.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 2.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 3. In paragraph 3 we are going to be adding a reference to Mexico as well. This was an omission.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 4. The Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) This is a question to the German delegation. There is an additional presentation that was made last yesterday by the representative of Germany on: From Quarks to the Universe - the Big Bang in the Lab, and the Secretariat would like to know if this presentation should be added into the list of presentations under agenda item 7, report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

(Germany) Thank you, I would request that this be done.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you to the Secretariat.

*Paragraph 4 is herewith adopted as amended.*

The United Nations programme on space applications.

Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) I am sorry Mr. Chairman, I am going back to paragraph 4. You yourself and other delegates were aware, yesterday and a number of days in this room, as we struggled to complete the presentations, the schedule of presentations that were meant to be heard during our deliberations. My delegation, and I think we speak for, even if we do not speak for everybody, we speak for a large number of delegations in this room, that we need

to go back to the drawing board in scheduling presentations at COPUOS. There are two things we are doing here, one, we are following the agenda of COPUOS and the main concerns that are before this Committee and, we are educating ourselves through some of these technical presentations but there has to be a balance. How many presentations can we schedule at a given time? To what extent are those who are making presentations obliged to comply with the time allotted to them? How many presentations can a delegation make? And so on and so forth. I really believe G15 and the Secretariat need to sit down and review this issue and see how we can improve the conduct of the activities of this Committee on this particular issue. Thank you very much.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes, indeed, you are quite right. Several delegations have already spoken making this point. I believe that your suggestion is perfectly relevant. The Secretariat and the G15 really must consider this matter and how to deal with it, how we can structure these presentations. We have to be more rational in the way that we structure this and bring about some balance.

The United States on this issue?

**Mr. K. HODGKINS** (United States of America) I have no particular disagreement with what our distinguished colleague from Nigeria said but, this is only one part of the problem. There are two parts to this. The number of presentations scheduled and, secondly, the lack of discipline on the part of some delegations in terms of adhering to limiting their remarks or making multiple interventions on the same point. Typically, we have a speaker's list, where you get to make an intervention and, if you have to come back again, it is for a very specific point. You will see if you look at the record that we have on some items a delegation, or delegations, making multiple interventions on the same item and, while we are not in favour of limiting debate, that does cut into the time that other delegations have in order to express their views and it cuts into the time that we have for the special presentations. I would suggest if the G15 and the Secretariat are going to be looking at this it has to be in its totality, how we also manage the debate under each of the agenda items and how we bring a little bit more order and discipline to our work. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you United States. Speaking with the Secretariat, we would like to make a proposal to the house. It would be that covering the very legitimate and multiple concerns on this topic which, not only has to do with the time but content, and the way in which it

was done in the excessive amount of time it has taken us. Perhaps make a couple of paragraphs here and reflect these concerns and put this under other matters. So under, other matters, we would have a couple of paragraphs where we would be able to consider the proposal of the Secretariat text when we come to other matters.

I do not see any objections.

So we will come back to this, under other matters, and by then we will have a text from the Secretariat.

Let us continue. We come to paragraph 5.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 6. Under 6, the Russian Federation has asked for the floor.

**Ms. L. KASATKINA** (Russian Federation) (*interpretation from Russian*) Thank you very much Chair. We have a remark on paragraphs 5 and 6 and this concerns not just the Russian text. Please can you explain to me, we talk about the advantages of space techniques, then in 6 we use the singular. Technology, perhaps we could harmonize the same terms, applications in plural and use that throughout the text.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) To respond to the distinguished delegate of the Russian Federation. The issue that the Russian Federation is bringing up relates to paragraphs 5 and 6 in L.275/Add.2, under the section on spin-off benefits, so we will come to that, we are in Addendum 1.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Secretariat. South Africa.

**Ms. N. MAJAJA** (South Africa) Mine is just a small typo in paragraph 5, the sentence reads as follows. The Committee agreed that spin-off benefits, spin-offs of space technology should be promoted because they advance economy, and not advanced, they advance economy through production of innovative technology. So if you could just delete the "d" in advanced.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Just so that all delegations are aware, we are now going through document L.275/Add.1. The issue on spin-off benefits is contained in Add.2. It was distributed to delegations in order for delegations to have time to reflect on the document when we come to it but we have not come to Add.2 yet, so Add.1.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me draw the delegates' attention to the fact that we are working on A/AC.105/L.275/Add.1 at this time. Thank you Secretariat.

We are on paragraph 5.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 6.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 7.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 8.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 9.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 10.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 11. Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to direct your attention to line 2, towards the end of paragraph 11, where we speak of the donor community. I am very sure that the Secretariat can do better than that. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Nigeria. Secretariat has the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Could we replace the term, donor community, with, member States?

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) The Secretariat has the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) I was corrected by my colleague behind. We could replace donor community with member States and organizations.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) China.

**Mr. Y. XU** (China) Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the efforts of the Secretariat to include text but in the Chinese language we have some difficulty to accept, the Committee appealed to member States. If we have to use, the Committee appealed to somebody maybe we do not limit it to member States. The Committee appealed to States and organizations, which is not only linked to member States. If a committee appealed to its members it is a little bit difficult for us. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) It is a kind of self-appeal, the Chinese delegate is quite right. Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) To States and organizations, it could be then, the donor community could be replaced with, States and organizations.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Are there any objections to the Secretariat's proposal?

*If there are none, it is adopted.*

Paragraph 12.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 13.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 14. Austria.

**Ms. C. REINPRECHT** (Austria) First, a small typo, symposia I would rather say than symposiums. The second remark I would like to make is more on a substantial note. If the reference to small satellite development refers to the Austrian symposium in Graz that will deal with small satellite technology for sustainable development, I would rather suggest that we say instead of small satellite development, we say small satellite technology for sustainable development because it more accurately reflects the title and the approach of the next series of symposia we will hold in Graz, if that is agreeable to the Secretariat.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Austria. Could you be kind enough to repeat the exact wording of the change here?

**Ms. C. REINPRECHT** (Austria) So I will repeat, the first remark in the second line, first word, symposiums, the correct term would be symposia. In the third line, when we talk about small satellite development, we would just include, small satellite technology for sustainable development.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me thank the Austrian delegation. Those are two important changes. I think no problem with the first one. The second deals more with sustainable development and not sustainable satellites. Satellites kind of sustain themselves in space, so thank you very much.

Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) With regard to the first note by the distinguished delegate of Austria on symposiums or symposia, this is a thing that the editors will have to solve, it is in their hands. On the other proposal, the Secretariat has taken note of, small satellite technology for sustainable development.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much for those two amendments which have been applied to 14.

*Paragraph 14 adopted.*

Paragraph 15.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 16.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 17.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 18.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 19.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 20.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 21.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 22.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 23.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 24.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 25.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 26. Colombia.

**Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO** (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Sorry Chair. It is not on 26, I would like to go back to (c). We have a confirmation from the Secretariat about the inclusion of the legal curricula in the regional centres and I do not know if this is going to appear in another part of the document or not.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Is Colombia talking about the development of curricula for the space law course provided by experts from the United Nations, is that what you are talking about?

**Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO** (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Among the activities of the regional centres.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Indeed, this topic is going to be dealt with under the Legal Subcommittee but let me give the floor to the Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) The project of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, together with the directors of the regional centres and the expert group, on forming this curricula for space law education at the regional centres, there is a paragraph on this on page 17 under subsection 6, capacity-building in space law

when we come to the report of the Legal Subcommittee so this something that I will now tell delegations in paragraph 17 in this document.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Fine. Thank you Secretariat.

Let us return to paragraph 26.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 27.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 28.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 29.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 30.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 31.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 32.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 33.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 34.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 35.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 36.

*Adopted.*

Now, we come to space debris. The Secretariat wants to give some clarification.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) I would now like delegations to turn their attention to CRP.20, additional paragraphs for the draft report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and this is the matter that was discussed yesterday. In this section 3, in Add.1, that we are now about to consider on space debris, paragraphs 37-44. The paragraphs 37, 38, 39 and 40 will now be considered. Paragraph 41, the proposal is that paragraph 41 be deleted, then the Committee will continue to consider paragraphs 42, 43 and 44 and, after that, turn its attention to CRP.20 and consider paragraphs 44*bis*, *ter*, *quater*, *quinquies*, *sexies*.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Fine, thank you very much Secretariat.

Let us move forward like this. We are going to consider 37, 38 and 40.

Paragraph 37.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 38.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 39.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 40.

*Adopted.*

Now we have the proposal to delete 41.

*It is deleted.*

Greece has the floor.

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) Good morning to everybody. I would like, in the place of 41, to make a mention of the declaration I made concerning the joint Czech and Greek proposal from 1996 concerning the introduction, for at least discussion, in the Legal Subcommittee on the space debris question. Thank you very much.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Greece.

Czech Republic.

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic) Since my distinguished colleague and friend, Vassilis Cassapoglou, also mentioned my country I have to draw his attention and of course your attention that perhaps this particular proposal should be dealt with in the section dealing with the report of the Legal Subcommittee, not in this part of the report which deals with the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Czech Republic. Then I think that Greece is assenting with a nod of the head that this be dealt with under legal matters.

Now I submit to you 42, 43, 44 on the understanding that the numbering will change on the basis of the paragraphs that follow and the changes there which will be explained by the Secretariat.

Paragraph 42.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 43.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 44.

*Adopted.*

Now, I give the floor to the Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Now the Secretariat understands that we will turn to CRP.20 and the proposed paragraphs in that document.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Germany has the floor.

**Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN** (Germany) Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like, also in the name of the Italian delegation, to thank the Secretariat for yesterday's last minute efforts to draft this amendment to the draft report.

I would like to ask for amendment of two passages of that paper, CRP.20. The first one would refer to 44*bis*, I have the impression that it may be useful to at least include two or three key aspects of our proposal so that that paragraph would already be a bit more self-explanatory. Of course I realize that you have added the reference to CRP.19 and I believe that should also remain and yet, the reader of this report

would not immediately have at his or her disposal CRP.19 so it might be useful to amend that a little bit. If I may propose to provide some wording for that, we could perhaps add after, of an international platform, and now comes the addition, of data and information on objects in outer space for the promotion of a safe and sustainable development of the peaceful uses of outer space, applied on an exclusively voluntary basis, that would be freely accessible to member States, and then comes the reference to CRP.19. I can either repeat it or I can also hand you the wording later, so that would make things a little bit more self-explanatory.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Germany.

Greece has the floor.

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) We agreed to this addition and I would like to ask, through you to the distinguished representative of Germany, maybe to dictate, to repeat in dictation, to have the possibility to write the suggestion.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. United States.

**Mr. K. HODGKINS** (United States of America) Mr. Chairman, I have no objection to the proposed change to 44*bis* as proposed by our distinguished colleague from Germany but and I am not sure if he also has some additional changes. The concern I have is that 44*sexies* is not adequate in terms of the report. That paragraph needs to be re-drafted to be very specific about what the Committee is asking for and perhaps our colleague in fact will make that suggestion as well but I just wanted to make sure that this was all put together in a very tight package and 44*sexies* is going to have to be revised as well.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. Germany.

**Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN** (Germany) Of course, our distinguished American colleague is absolutely right and that would have been the second amendment to CRP.20 that I would have proposed. Indeed, passage 44*sexies* does not accurately reflect our statement of yesterday. If you wish I could propose also the amendment straight away or, if there are still other considerations regarding the proposal of the distinguished Greek colleague concerning 44*bis*, maybe we close that up first and then come to 44*sexies*.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, it seems to me that it would be better,

for clarity sake and for the delegates in the room, that we do not adopt this at this time but we come up with a clean text that includes these amendments and this be re-presented in a clean form to the delegations this morning.

China.

**Mr. Y. XU** (China) Although there is a lot of hesitation I wonder whether my dear colleague of Germany also can explain the slight word changes because from yesterday's discussion and the words from what we have through the informal consultation we are talking about an international database of data and information. Now in this paper, in CRP.19, we change into platform. Since we only have the English version, we do not have the Chinese version so I am wondering whether we can, through you, get some further information about the difference between platform and the database. Otherwise, I am not sure whether we can go along to adopt this text in the English version.

Another issue is concerning the 44 \_\_\_\_ (?) that, on the last line, they only mention issues of liability. It seemed to me that, from yesterday's discussion, we heard some delegations' concerns about the financial implications so maybe also we can incorporate it into that paragraph. Just add, regarding financial implications and issues of liability.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much China. Greece.

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) I have just to remind you and our distinguished Chinese colleague that this subparagraph 44*bis* reflects only the joint proposal so it is up to the proposer countries to formulate, it is not subject to our approval. The explanations made by our distinguished German colleague exactly reflects the content of their declaration.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Germany.

**Mr. J. MARSCHALL VON BIEBERSTEIN** (Germany) I just would like to point out to the distinguished Chinese colleague that we have used the term of a specific platform in our statement in the fourth paragraph, this is not now a new terminology introduced into the amendment, it is referring to exactly what we have \_\_\_\_ (?).

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) No, this is a substantive discussion now, we

are not going to open it up. The Chair feels that Germany is going to present us with a text, we will discuss this with the different delegations and submit it to their consideration.

Paragraph 45. Venezuela.

**Mr. R. BECERRA** (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Sorry to take you back but 44, I am going right from the CRP, I am going back to Add.1 now, 44. We need to, at the end of this paragraph, include, in conformity with 62/17 of the General Assembly or figures to that effect, so it is clearer here in its meaning, what we are trying to say. It is just that amendment

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Colombia.

**Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO** (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me thank Germany, Greece and the countries that have intervened to improve the German and Italian proposal. In this respect, let me remind you that, as the Colombian delegation said yesterday, we would like to have due account taken of the register of debris as well as the access registry, access to space activities in the future. We would ask our distinguished colleague from Germany to please make mention of this in respect of the text, which we discussed yesterday and which we do not see reflected in any of the paragraphs that we are considering.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) This will be part of the process that I mentioned about Germany coming up with a clean text. Back to Venezuela on paragraph 44 that we had, could you repeat the resolution Venezuela, more slowly?

**Mr. R. BECERRA** (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) In 44, we would add, at the end of the paragraph, in conformity with resolution 62/217 of the General Assembly.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) *If there is no objection to that proposal from Venezuela, we can add that amendment and adopt 44, again.*

Paragraph 45.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 46.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 47.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 48.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 49.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 50.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 51. Philippines.

**Mr. C. MANANGAN** (Philippines) Mr. Chairman I would like to convey that the Government of the Philippines has made an offer to host the SPIDER programme and we would like to have this reflected. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, we can but express our satisfaction with this, so we will of course be including the name of your country in this paragraph. Thank you.

*Paragraph 51 approved as amended.*

Paragraph 52. Switzerland.

**Ms. N. ARCHINARD** (Switzerland) The Swiss delegation understands that references here made to the usually called, International Charter of Space and Major Disasters. We are not aware of this denomination, Charter on Cooperation to Achieve the Coordinated Use of Space Facilities in the Event of National or Technological Disasters. So, for the sake of clarity and also to be consequent with the title of the presentation made by the distinguished delegate of Argentina on that precise subject and the title of this presentation reads, International Charter on Space and Major Disasters. We would suggest to add this denomination in brackets after the appellation which is presently in this paragraph 52, if there is no opposition.

As a second point. It is mentioned that resources were being made available to an increasing number of member States. We understand that the benefit of resources went also to States who may not be a member of COPUOS, so we would suggest to suppress

the member. That would read, resources were being made available to an increasing number of States. If this acceptable for the Committee.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. Algeria.

**Mr. A-S. KEDGAR** (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*) I would just like to backtrack to 51 to mention that the regional support office in Algeria is being set up. This is something which does not appear in the paragraph as presently worded.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Could you have exact language? Or give this in to the Secretariat?

**Mr. A-S. KEDGAR** (Algeria) (*interpretation from French*) I will put my head together with the Secretariat and come up with the appropriate language.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Algeria. Secretariat you have the floor on the Swiss proposal.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) The Swiss delegate points to an issue that is a constant battle between the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Editorial Section. They always put the full name of the international charter and we always operate with the terminology, international charter on space and major disasters. So we will check on this and we would like to have included the reference to international charter on space and major disasters, so either we replace the full name or we add it in parenthesis but we will solve that.

On the second point regarding member States. The Secretariat is of course in the hands of delegations whether we should strike out member but just to explain. When we have capital M, that refers to all Member States of the United Nations, when there is a small m that refers only to the member States of the Committee and this is agreed language since many years. It is not incorrect here to refer to Member States in capital M, it means all Member States of the United Nations but in order to have no confusion we could delete member and only talk about States, if that is the wish of delegates.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Fine, thank you. Canada.

**Ms. P. WILLIAMS** (Canada) Mr. Chairman, I beg your indulgence. I was studying paragraph 39 and I

just wondered about the last sentence whether there needs to be some clarification in terms of the reference made to the European code of conduct. Are we referring to the one which is currently being consulted? Or, is there something else on the books? Perhaps that phrase, if it is deleted, would make the paragraph a little clearer. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Greece has the floor.

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) (*interpretation from French*) I would like to say to my dear friend from Canada that this is not the code of conduct that we are negotiating in Brussels but the so-called ESA code of conduct. This was undertaken under the initiative of the European Space Agency who wanted to come out with a space debris code and this was the first initiative of the sort. Instead of having European code of conduct etc., possibly we could insert a reference to the ESA code of conduct but that is up to you to decide.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. Czech Republic.

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic) I believe that our distinguished colleague from Greece is completely right and this document which has been entitled European code of conduct for space debris mitigation was already mentioned several times in our earlier document.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you for this point of clarification. So we will keep the text as it stands. Czech Republic again on this same point?

**Mr. V. KOPAL** (Czech Republic) I now have a copy of these documents in my hands and it was indeed European code of conduct for space debris mitigation that was adopted on 28 June 2004.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Fine, thank you for that clarification. Now we are going to go back to paragraph 52.

*Paragraph 52 approved as amended.*

Paragraph 53.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 54.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 55.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 56.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 57.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 58.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 59.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 60.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 61.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 62.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 63.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 64.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 65. Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) Just a minor modification. Can we delete the last three words and replace those with another three words, its original schedule - for approval one year ahead of its original schedule.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) If there are no objections, this is acceptable to everyone? Fine.

*This is approved this proposal.*

Paragraph 66.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 67.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 68.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 69.

*Approved.*

Paragraph 70. Nigeria followed by Greece.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria)

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) I do not see in paragraphs 68, 69 if the Safety Committee of IAEA has already approved or expressed its approval for the work made by the Legal Subcommittee, the working group of NPS. It was said that, after the approval of the work of the working group and then of the S & T Subcommittee, then the safety working group or something of the Agency will approve and then proceed to the publication. We need to know if they have already fulfilled this task because it should not be published as a regulation or something or a standard recommendation but as .. I remember this procedure but we have to reflect it on that, that it is already done and then we are expecting for the publication of the text from the part of the Agency.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. Secretariat on this.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) To clarify, in paragraph 64, the very last sentence refers to the agreement of the IAEA commission on safety standards at its twenty-fifth meeting held in Vienna from 22-24 April 2009. So paragraph 24 is the reference to the IAEA.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. Nigeria, on this paragraph?

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) No, it is paragraph 70. I think the Secretariat needs to tell us the meaning of this paragraph, I do not understand it.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. Paragraph 70. I will give the floor to the Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Paragraph 70 refers to a view expressed by one delegation and this is what the Secretariat has been able to draw out from the statement by that delegation, so this is what the Secretariat can do.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) May I request the Secretariat to meet with that delegation to redraft this particular paragraph for better clarity. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Well, I believe that we can ask the delegation to come up with new language if that delegation is willing to do that. Who does this paragraph belong to? Who is responsible here? The paternity cannot be signed here? Nigeria is it?

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) In the absence of a paternity can we delete it please.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) It is a difficult situation is it not? This is an orphan paragraph, nobody cares, shall we just strike it? In that case the father could declare a bit later on.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) No! Now or never.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) I am not really sure, I am turning to the Secretariat on this one.

Thank you to all the delegations. We have consulted with the Secretariat and we now believe that Nigeria, which has called for this paragraph to be struck, will be followed up on.

*So we have struck this paragraph.*

Let us go on to 71 now. Venezuela you have the floor.

**Mr. R. BECERRA** (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) There is a problem which only affects the Spanish version, the other language versions there is no problem with. The Spanish version needs some amendment to enhance its readability. So, \_\_\_\_ (?) should be struck in the Spanish version of 71, this is a

comment only on the Spanish version. This will enable clarification.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Nigeria.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) In line 3 of paragraph 71 towards the end, I think should be reconstructed to read as follows: in the regulation of the use of NPS, and then continues. We strike out, activity associated with, this is very clumsy.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. On the Venezuelan proposal, would there be any comments in the room, any objections? Does not seem to be the case. So, consequently we will be accepting that proposal and striking the word \_\_\_\_ (?) in the Spanish version. I believe that this will allow for a clear text in Spanish.

As for the Nigerian proposal, could we have the views of the Secretariat on this. Did they understand the Nigerian proposal? Could Nigeria read out, at dictation speed, not too quickly, the proposal that they wish to make.

**Mr. A. ABIODUN** (Nigeria) The third line of paragraph 71 would read as follows: that had an obligation to engage in the regulation of the use of, and then you continue from line 4, as is.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much Nigeria. Are there any objections to the proposal? China, is it on the Nigerian proposal or something else?

**Mr. Y. XU** (China) Although we know the background information about that, we know that Nigeria wants to improve the text but the new wording proposed by Nigeria seems to me to be too limited. It is only concerning the \_\_\_\_ (?) in the regulation of the use of NPS in outer space but, for us, we want to have a broader application because it concerns activity related to the NPS in outer space. I am not sure whether we have lost something to adopt this new wording because it is only concerning the regulation of NPS in outer space. There may be some activity which does not happen in outer space.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me thank China. Let me remind you that what we are doing here is not implementing concepts but reflecting the content of the discussions as has been taken down by the Secretariat. Let us bear that in mind, this is our guiding star so to speak. What was said

during the meeting and not debating any merits of the case.

Greece.

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) I think that the remark made by our distinguished Chinese colleague is correct but the only word we have changed is, instead of activity to put process, more legally speaking is the regulatory process. If my colleague from China agrees, I think it is better because he is right, if we say regulations it is already done and we have a regulatory text. I understand why he very well wished to have the regulatory process, we are on a regulatory process even from the administrative \_\_\_\_ (?) point of view. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. Does the Secretariat have a combined text of these proposals?

China, would you please allow the Secretariat to make a proposal before you take the floor?

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) It is not just a proposal. The latest proposal was to have the third line, that had an obligation to engage in the regulatory process associated with the use of NPS and so forth.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) United States, then China.

**Mr. K. HODGKINS** (United States of America) Mr. Chairman, this paragraph reflects the views of some delegations. My delegation might not necessarily agree with these but I really do not think it is a good use of our time to negotiate the views of other delegations that have been clearly expressed and we really do not have that much time left today to get our report completed. So, if our distinguished delegates from Greece and from Nigeria, if this paragraph reflects their views then they should sit down with our distinguished colleague from China and give us a text that is acceptable to all of them, otherwise we are trying to re-negotiate what was expressed during the discussions, so I do not think that this really is appropriate, to be quite honest with you, to try to get our colleague from China to accept language that he clearly had not intended to say. I appeal to everyone that let us move on. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) China.

**Mr. Y. XU** (China) I agree with the proposal made by the Secretariat. I think my input tried to follow the suggestion of Nigeria to make it more readable but since there are some other concerns about the timing so we will refrain from making any new proposal on that. We can go along with the proposal from the Secretariat.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you China.

So with that proposal can we adopt this? If there are no objections? I see none.

*It is so decided.*

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 72.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 73.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 74. Venezuela on 74.

**Mr. R. BECERRA** (Venezuela) (*interpretation from Spanish*) There is a mistake in the next to last line, it is not near-Earth orbits but terrestrial orbits because this is a change we have had to make time and again, this kind of mistake is very recurrent, I would ask the Secretariat to pay close attention because this is not technically correct to say, near-Earth orbits, it is terrestrial orbits.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you. Secretariat take note.

Paragraph 74.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 75.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 76.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 77.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 78. Mexico.

**Mr. S. CAMACHO-LARA** (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) One addition after the end of the second sentence, to add the words, and their conclusions will be turned over to the action team.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Can Mexico explain why they want this change to be made, so we understand?

**Mr. S. CAMACHO-LARA** (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes. The intent of our proposal is this, that a group of experts work separately during the intersessional period considering matters of a legal and political and operational nature related to the work carried out by the action team 14 and the working group of the STSC. They would work in parallel because we are of the impression that the work of the governments during the STSC meeting in the intersessional will have a lot to do with the aspects that we just mentioned. Working in parallel would help save nearly one year's time instead of just waiting for February of 2010 and only then beginning to consider the legal and policy and operational aspects, we thought that that action team would also be able to start tackling these already, this is why we would make this proposal.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Mexico, thank you for that clarification.

If there are no objections to this?

*Adopted with that change.*

Next paragraph, paragraph 79.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 80.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 81.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 82.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 83.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 84.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 85.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 86.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 87.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 88.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 89.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 90.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 91.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 92.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 93.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 94.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 95.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 96.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 97.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 98.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 99.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 100.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 101.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 102.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 103.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 104.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 105. Canada, it is 104?

**Ms. P. WILLIAMS** (Canada) Just a small point in paragraph 97, Canada also made a statement for the Legal Subcommittee. Thank you.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Canada, you will be added to paragraph 97.

So, we are on paragraph 104.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 105.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 106.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 107.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 108.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 109.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 110.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 111.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 112.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 113. Sorry back to 112. Colombia.

**Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO** (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) In general, when dealing with the definition of delimitation of outer space, the one thing we discussed fairly intensely in the Legal Committee and we saw this included in the draft of the report but here it is not reflected. This has to do with the recommendations that we are going to exchange COPUOS with the ITU, think about the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2011 and the other conference that was eluded to in that report but which we do not see here, I do not know if this was an oversight.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Colombia. The Secretariat is going to express itself on this.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Just regarding the statement by Colombia, in paragraph 110 the Committee takes notes of the discussions in the subcommittee under this item and there is a specific reference to the paragraphs of the report of the Legal Subcommittee under this item. Mainly what this part reflects, and that goes for all parts of this report, are the discussions held at this session of the Committee, so we are not making references to the issues that have discussed in the Legal Subcommittee.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Colombia.

**Mr. J. OJEDA BUENO** (Colombia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) \_\_\_\_ (?) taking note is a

very kind of light way of dealing with this affirmation. If there were another opinion with respect to this, we do not think that this, from a legal viewpoint, and we would have to consult with New York that ITU formerly cannot work with COPUOS jointly or that contributions from COPUOS to ITU are precluded within the United Nations system, if it were necessary. We would ask that legal opinion be requested on this because at a certain point in our discussion the only objection was to know whether legally this was viable, that COPUOS would make this contribution to ITU. In the case of a negative response from the Legal Affairs in New York or here in Vienna, we will withdraw this request for recommendations. In the case where it is legally possible we would not see any objection to this.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you Colombia. The Secretariat has nothing to add to this proposal.

Indonesia first and then Greece.

**Ms. E. ADININGSHI** (Indonesia) As my delegation has stated under the agenda item 8, we emphasized on achieving minimum consensus or compromise on this issue, a more realistic approach. We see that our view is not reflected in this paragraph, either 112 or 113, so I would suggest that the Secretariat would elaborate the concern to be accommodated either in paragraph 112 or 113.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Let me ask Indonesia to be kind enough to draft a short text that reflects your delegation's position that we can turn over to the Secretariat and have it included in one of the paragraphs as you explained very well. I would ask Colombia to proceed in the same way as well.

We will come back to these two paragraphs, let us have them just be pending for now.

Greece.

**Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU** (Greece) I would like to repeat what the Secretariat told. Everything was discussed during the session of the Legal Subcommittee and if someone wishes to make a reference until we have also the so-called transcripts, he can refer there. It is not necessary to repeat what we have said, otherwise we re-open the discussion already finalized there. As for the substance, I have to repeat for I do not know how many thousand times from 75 until now, that the problem was resolved in August 1945 in Atlantic City, the relations between ITU and

the United Nations as an organization. Thank you very much

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Yes, thank you for that reminder but we are not going back to the substance here. Bolivia.

**Mr. P. MARCA PACO** (Bolivia) (*interpretation from Spanish*) Since we are looking at different paragraphs, let me just bring us back to 109, just to clarify things here. This will lead you to think that NGOs either have to adhere to these treaties, the Committee noted that the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law were important and that, at the end, it says, should therefore consider taking steps to encourage their members to adhere to the outer space treaties. But NGOs are not States, they are civil society. How can an NGO adhere or an NGO encourage its members, which is civil society, to adhere to outer space treaties? Since treaties can only be adhered to by States and not NGOs, so just to make things clearer here we should add, towards the end, take measures to encourage their members and intergovernmental organizations to adhere to outer space treaties because only States can adhere to these treaties that are members of IGOs and not NGOs, that is the clarification that we wanted to make.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Indeed, NGOs cannot act as States. Secretariat.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) In order to bring this paragraph into some more clarity. The first element of the paragraph refers to the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The second element only refers to intergovernmental organizations but what the Secretariat proposes is the following. In the third line and up to the end of the paragraph would read as follows: contributed significantly to the development of space law. The Committee also noted that intergovernmental organizations had an important role and so forth. So that would separate these two elements.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) That is a Solomonian solution that you have found, Secretariat, and we thank you.

Paragraphs 112 and 113 are pending as I said this brings us up to Paragraph 114.

Paragraph 114.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 115.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 116.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 117.

*Adopted.*

The Secretariat has informed me that it is 1 p.m. and we would like to conclude on 122. During the lunch break we would have the possibility for delegations, especially the German delegation, to then present their texts as well as the other three delegations that we mentioned to help us finally adopt 112 and 113.

Paragraph 118.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 119.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 120.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 121.

*Adopted.*

Paragraph 122.

*Adopted.*

Let me give the floor to the Secretariat to indicate how we will proceed with the documents that are still pending. You have the floor.

**Mr. N. HEDMAN** (Secretariat) Before adjourning this meeting, all delegations should already have Add.2 that was distributed in this conference room this morning. I have been told that the last part of the report, which is contained in Add.3, is now being copied, so it will be distributed in the pigeon holes during the lunch break.

**The CHAIRMAN** (*interpretation from Spanish*) Thank you very much. With that we end this session, we will meet back at 3 p.m.

*The meeting closed at 1.02 p.m.*