
**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Fifty-sixth session**

Script

674th Meeting
Friday, 21 June 2013, 10.00 a.m.
Vienna

Chairman: Mr. Yasushi Horikawa (Japan)

The meeting was called to order at 10.07 a.m.

The Chairman. Good morning, distinguished delegates. I now declare open the 674th Meeting of the Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space.

Distinguished delegates, I would first like to inform you of our programme of work for this morning. We will continue our consideration of agenda item 15, Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to continue our consideration of agenda item 15, the Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

Yesterday we adopted first two parts of the report, documents A/AC.105/L.287 and Addendum 1 pending subsection 10 on agenda for 2014.

This morning we will start with the adoption of the third part of the report, document A/AC.105/L.287/Add.2 that was distributed to delegations in the pigeon holes this morning.

This document contains the following part: Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its fiftieth session.

Do all delegations have before them document A/AC.105/L.287/Addendum 2?

Can I proceed the adoption of the document?

So we shall now begin with a paragraph-by-paragraph adoption of document A/AC.105/L.287/Addendum.2. It starts, Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its fiftieth session.

Paragraph 1. I see no comments. Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. Paragraph 2 is adopted.

Paragraph 3. I see no comments. Paragraph 3 is adopted.

Paragraph 4. This has from (a) to (c) subparagraphs. Ah, (a) to (i), I mean. Any comments

on this paragraph? I see none. Paragraph 4 is adopted as a whole.

Paragraph 5. I see none. Paragraph 5 is adopted.

Paragraph 6. Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Paragraph 7. Paragraph 7 is adopted.

Paragraph 8. Paragraph 8 is adopted.

Paragraph 9. Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Paragraph 10. Paragraph 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11. 11 is adopted.

Paragraph 12. Paragraph 12 is adopted.

Paragraph 13. Any comments? I see none. Paragraph 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. Paragraph 14 is adopted.

Paragraph 15. I see none. Paragraph 15 is adopted.

Paragraph 16. Paragraph 16 is adopted.

Paragraph 17. Yes, distinguished representative of Japan. You have the floor.

Mr. Kobata (Japan). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to note that, regarding the second sentence of the paragraph 17, the extension of the long-term fellowship programme on nanosatellite technologies is not to 2015, but to 2017. So I'd like to ask you to modify from 2015 to 2017. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Japan. We will take that amendment. Any other delegations wishing to speak on this paragraph? I see none. Paragraph 17 is adopted with that modification.

Paragraph 18. Paragraph 18 is adopted.

Paragraph 19. I see no comments. Paragraph 19 is adopted.

Paragraph 20. I see no comments. Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21. Paragraph 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. Paragraph 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23. Paragraph 23 is adopted.

Paragraph 24. I see no comments. Paragraph 24 is adopted.

Paragraph 25. 25 is adopted.

Paragraph 26. Paragraph 26 is adopted.

Paragraph 27. 27 is adopted.

Paragraph 28. Paragraph 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. 29 is adopted.

Paragraph 30. Paragraph 30 is adopted.

Paragraph 31. I see no comments. Paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Paragraph 32 is adopted.

Paragraph 33. Paragraph 33 is adopted.

Paragraph 34. Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Argentina. You have the floor.

Mr. Menicocci (Argentina, translated from Spanish). Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to add something. This is about [[SAC-C]] international mission. In fact, [[SAC-D]] distributed data for free. So we should say, international missions [[SAC-C]] and [[SAC-D]] and state that Argentina was there.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Argentina for his amendment. The secretariat had take the note. Yes. With that amendment, 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Paragraph 36. Paragraph 36 is adopted.

Paragraph 37. Paragraph 37 is adopted.

Paragraph 38. 38 is adopted.

Paragraph 39. Paragraph 39 is adopted.

Paragraph 40. I see no comments. Paragraph 40 is adopted.

Paragraph 41. 41 is adopted.

Paragraph 42. Paragraph 42 is adopted.

Paragraph 43. 43 is adopted.

Paragraph 44. I see no comments. Paragraph 44 is adopted.

Paragraph 45. 45 is adopted.

Paragraph 46. Paragraph 46 is adopted.

Paragraph 47. 47 is adopted.

Paragraph 48. 48 is adopted.

Paragraph 49. 49 is adopted.

Paragraph 50. 50 is adopted.

Paragraph 51. 51 is adopted.

Paragraph 52. Paragraph 52 is adopted.

Paragraph 53. 53 is adopted.

Paragraph 54. 54 is adopted.

Paragraph 55. 55 is adopted.

Paragraph 56. 56 is adopted.

Paragraph 57. Paragraph 57 is adopted.

Paragraph 58. 58 is adopted.

Paragraph 59. 59 is adopted.

Paragraph 60. I see no comments. Paragraph 60 is adopted.

Paragraph 61. 61 is adopted.

Paragraph 62. 62 is adopted.

Paragraph 63. Paragraph 63 is adopted.

Paragraph 64. 64 is adopted.

Paragraph 65. 65 is adopted.

Paragraph 66. Paragraph 66 is adopted.

Paragraph 67. 67 is adopted.

Paragraph 68. 68 is adopted.

Paragraph 69. 69 is adopted.

Paragraph 70. I see no comments. Paragraph 70 is adopted.

Paragraph 71. Paragraph 71 is adopted.

Paragraph 72. Paragraph 72 is adopted.

Paragraph 73. 73 is adopted.

Paragraph 74. Paragraph 74 is adopted.

Paragraph 75. Paragraph 75 is adopted.

Paragraph 76. 76 is adopted.

Paragraph 77. Paragraph 77 is adopted.

Paragraph 78. Paragraph 78 is adopted.

Paragraph 79. 79 is adopted.

Paragraph 80. 80 is adopted.

Paragraph 81. 81 is adopted.

Paragraph 82. 82 is adopted.

Paragraph 83. 83 is adopted.

Paragraph 84. Paragraph 84 is adopted.

Paragraph 85. 85 is adopted.

Paragraph 86. 86 is adopted.

Paragraph 87. 87 is adopted.

Paragraph 88. 88 is adopted.

Paragraph 89. I see no comments. 89 is adopted.

Paragraph 90. Paragraph 90 is adopted.

Paragraph 91. 91 is adopted.

Paragraph 92. 92 is adopted.

Paragraph 93. 93 is adopted.

Paragraph 94. 94 is adopted.

Paragraph 95. Paragraph 95 is adopted.

Paragraph 96. 96 is adopted.

Paragraph 97. Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Switzerland. You have the floor.

Ms. Archinard (Switzerland). Thank you, Mr. Chair. It is a proposal to make this reporting more precise. At the very end of the paragraph, the action team should continue to inform, excuse me. Yes, the two bodies which are going to be set up: the International Asteroid Warning Network, on one hand, and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group on the other hand. It is stated they should report on an annual basis on their work, and I propose to add "to the Subcommittee". They should report to the Subcommittee on their work, for the sake of clarity. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland for his comments. Did the secretary take the, yes. Distinguished representative of Venezuela, you have the floor.

Mr. Becerra (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), translated from Spanish). Thank you, Chairman. I'm sorry to go back to paragraph 90 for a moment. Paragraph 90 is not a faithful reflection of what was explained yesterday. I would like to include the following sentence at the end. It would say: those delegations were of the view that more attention should be given to that matter through adequate strategies, long-term planning, regulations and the promotion of binding standards, as well as the use of the safety framework for nuclear power source applications in outer space. Exactly those words. That would cover the correct idea. If the secretariat has any doubts I can give them this in writing. Thank you very much, Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. Is there any comment on the distinguished representative from Venezuela has

proposed. So please bring you text to the secretariat later. So we will take that addition to the paragraph 90. And then we'll move to paragraph 97, which was proposed by the distinguished representative of Switzerland to put the last sentence, should be brought to the Subcommittee on an annual basis. Is that modification, any other modification. Yes. So with that modification, paragraph 97 is acceptable?

So paragraph 97 is adopted.

Paragraph 98. Paragraph 98 is adopted.

Paragraph 99. I see no comments. Paragraph 99 is adopted. Yes, distinguished representative of Brazil. You have the floor.

Mr. Pitaluga (Brazil). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'm so sorry, Mr. Chairman, but before moving forward I would like to see if we could go back to paragraph 37. I think that here, in terms of remote sensing, it should be worth in adding paragraph 37 bis. And I think that would be very worth mentioning that the Committee noted that we had the GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium in Tokyo in April 2012, the main plenary session of GEOSS in Brazil in Iguazu Falls and that we will have a ministerial meeting in Switzerland in January 2014. That would be my proposal. This is the what we do have in paragraph 68 of the Report of the Scientific Committee of this year. I think of this point it would be very important for us to have in our report. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Brazil for his comments. So secretariat will take the paragraphs 37 bis stating about the GEOSS and GEO Committee in this year and 2014. So, we will take it later. And with that addition, 37 bis is acceptable for the delegations? 37 bis is adopted

So now I move to the paragraph 100. Yes, distinguished representative of the United States. You have the floor.

Mr. Hodgkins (United States). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for asking if we could go back to paragraph 67 before we begin the section 10 on long-term sustainability. Paragraph 67 notes the various meetings of the Providers Forum in the ICG and what we would suggest is a reference be made to the fact that the 10th meeting of the Providers Forum had been held in Vienna on June 10th 2013.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of the United States for his additions. Do I take this addition? I see none. So the paragraph 67 will have the addition, 10th Providers meeting was held in Vienna during this session. So do I move to pass, or? I can do that.

Paragraph 101. I see no comments. 101 is adopted.

102. There is small modifications in the middle of this paragraph. There is a document number A/AC.105/2013/CRP.13. But this morning CRP.13/Rev.1 was distributed through the pigeonholes. I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation.

Mr. Agapov (Russian Federation, translated from Russian). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, indeed, draft I has already been published, and I'd like to ask the secretariat to take into account the fact that two documents were submitted: CRP.13 and CRP.19. 19 was on two agenda items: Ways and means to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes and Long-term sustainability of outer space activities. So please, let's have a reference to CRP.19 here as well. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. We will take that additions in those paragraphs. Is it acceptable? Yes. With that additions, paragraph 102 is adopted.

Paragraph 103. I see no comments. 103 is adopted.

Paragraph 104. I see no comments. 104 is adopted.

Paragraph 105. Paragraph 105 is adopted.

Paragraph 106. Paragraph 106 is adopted.

Paragraph 107. Paragraph 107 is adopted.

Paragraph 108. Paragraph 108 is adopted.

Paragraph 109. In the square bracket we'll put the 20th. So 20 June 2013. This will be a modified to that. So, paragraph 109 is adopted. Now the secretariat will introduce the addition of 190 bis. So I'll give the floor to the secretariat.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, indeed, to take into account the conclusion of the working group that held its meeting yesterday, the 20th June, it is proposed to insert paragraph 109 bis, that will read as follows: The Committee noted that a revised version of document A/AC.105/1041 containing the compilation of the proposed draft guidelines of Expert Groups A to D of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, reflecting the progress made in the Expert Groups on their proposed draft guidelines during the 56th session of the Committee, would be made available in all official languages of the United Nations as soon as possible after the current session of the Committee. I will read it again.

Paragraph 109 bis. The Committee noted that a revised version of document A/AC.105/1041 containing the compilation of the proposed draft guidelines of Expert Groups A to D of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, reflecting the progress made in the Expert Groups on their proposed draft guidelines during the 56th session of the Committee, would be made available in all official languages of the United Nations as soon as possible after the current session of the Committee.

Mr. Chairman. Thank you, secretariat, for your additions under 109 bis. Is that acceptable for the delegates to catch the wording? I see no objections, so I will take 109 bis is adopted.

The I'll move to 110. Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. You have the floor.

Mr. Agapov (Russian Federation, translated from Russian). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, a small addition to 109, or maybe it should be 109 bis or ter. In the course of the working group meeting, it was suggested by the delegation of France that it might be helpful to set up a special group to look into harmonizing the draft and final version of the working group report in all six languages. We think it's important to mention that. It was a variable suggestion.

Next thing, on 110, there's a procedural question here. During the meeting of the working group a question was asked. The question was put to the head of the working group as to what kind of document would be produced in six languages. And the reply given was that this was going to be the working group Chairman's, not the report of the working group, but the working group Chairman's report. The working group has not seen such a report. It cannot really submit anything to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee before it gets an opportunity to discuss it in the working group itself. Therefore, in paragraph 110, we suggest changing the wording to say: The Committee noted that the report of the working group Chairman containing the Chairman's vision of the working group draft report and a set of preliminary guidelines would be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations, during the 51st session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. And then, during the STOC session, the working group will work on its report in accordance with the terms of reference. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Russian Federation for his comments. Distinguished representative of France, you have the floor.

Mr. Dufresne (France, translated from French). Thank you, Chairman. And thank you to our Russian colleague for recalling our comment in paragraph 9. Our proposal was perhaps just to dream of the time when the revised version of document 1041 will be completed, so that we will know how accurate it really is within paragraph 109. So we can dream of the day it is finished and we know exactly what the contents are. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of France for his comments. ...

Distinguished delegates, thank you for your patience. The secretariat is trying to modify the wording so the secretariat will announce the modification. Secretariat, you have the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have tried to harmonize the various proposals there. So, distinguished delegates, you recall we had paragraph 109, then 109 bis, as the secretary read out, then 110. Paragraph 110 could be redrafted as follows, and would read, as I will read it now: The Committee noted that a working paper by the Chair of the working group containing a proposal for a draft working group report and a preliminary set of draft guidelines, would be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations for the 51st session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and that during that session, the working group would begin to work on its draft report.

I read it again. 110 would read, as proposed: The Committee noted that a working paper by the Chair of the working group containing a proposal for a draft working group report and a preliminary set of draft guidelines, would be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations for the 51st session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and that during that session, the working group would begin to work on its draft report.

Before we take action on this paragraph, I would also read paragraph 110 bis. So paragraph 110 bis could read as follows: The view was expressed that a special group should be set up to look into harmonizing the language and terminology used in the six official languages of the United Nations in the draft working group report.

I read it again. 110 bis: The view was expressed that a special group should be set up to look into harmonizing the language and terminology used in the six official languages of the United Nations in the draft working group report. Thank you.

I thank the secretariat for his amendment. Yes, distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

Mr. Tarabzouni (Saudi Arabia). It is not the view it is some delegation, because it is a lot of people in the meeting yesterday and thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia [?]. Any other delegations wishing to speak on this modification and addition? I see none. So, paragraph 110 is, as amended as the secretariat said. And 110 is adopted. And 110 bis, as proposed by secretariat, we will take it now. 110 bis is adopted.

So we will move to 111. Russian Federation, I noticed. I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. You have the floor.

Mr. Agapov (Russian Federation, translated from Russian). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had a comment to make. The reports of Expert Groups are neither preliminary nor final — they are just working documents. So we suggest replacing the word “final” reports by “working” reports. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. Do we take it? I see no objections. Then the word “final” will be replaced by “working”. So the paragraph 111 is adopted.

The paragraph 113, I’m sorry, 12. There is small modification. The Committee noted that Expert Groups A, B and D had decided to meet informally. And the rest of the wording is same. So, the A, B and D — C will not have the intersessional informal meeting. So 112 will be amended as such. Can we take it? I see none. So 112 is adopted.

113. I see none. 113 is adopted.

114. 114 is adopted.

115. Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Iran. You have the floor.

Mr. Shafagh (Islamic Republic of Iran). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had some consideration on the, some points that is provided in this paragraph. As I remember, in the previous sessions, the Chair of the Working Group, Mr. Martinez, explained that the role of the Group of Governmental Experts — I mean we want to use, concerning this group, he mentioned that we want to use the method of the work of this group. But here, he’s highlighted more than the main subject. The main subject of this paragraph is reflecting the working or discussion as done regarding code of conduct for outer space activities. But it seems in this

paragraph other matters are more colourful and highlighted, more than enough to raise ... as an example, you know that concerning the process that is mentioned in the first line, I would like to have a clarification concerning this process. Processes divide, you know, borders and how we can understand our, how we can to reflect this discussion has done concerning the process of the shaping or developing the idea of the Code of Conduct. I think it should be clarified and also the last line, it is mentioned that, for the working group to take into consideration progress made under the other initiatives. It should be clear that what are these other initiatives. And the whole of this paragraph, I think, there are some misunderstanding or highlighting some subjects that is not necessary to reflect in this letter. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Iran for his remarks. And that is paragraph 115: Some delegations expressed. So it's not, you know, the Committee's ... not noted about this. Just some delegation is expressed the view. Is that acceptable for you?

Mr. Shafagh (Islamic Republic of Iran). Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor to response. Just a very short answer, that I know there is a "expressing the view of some delegations", but my main point is, it is reflected more than enough and highlighted, I think, if you look at to the rest of the sentence. After "expressing the views", it is again highlighted in the line before the last line: it was therefore necessary for the working group. It is comment, not reflecting the idea, started with "and" before the last line, "and it was therefore necessary". Who is recognized that this is necessary. You know, my country, or other some developing countries, we are not accepting this kind of forming the Code of Conduct from the first step. And we expressed our ideas during previous sessions. I would like to have a clarification for the Committee. You know, this is an important point and deserve to have more clear because this discussion is underway and many many subjects remain to be discussed. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Iran for his remarks. I'll give the floor to the secretariat for some modification on his part. I'll give the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the whole paragraph, which we have already concluded, reflects views expressed by some delegations. What could possibly be made in order to make it clear, is splitting two sentences. So, it would be full stop after "in the space environment". And then the paragraph would continue reading as follows: the delegations that expressed that view also

were of the view that it was therefore necessary, and so forth. So then it becomes clear that this is, the whole paragraph is the view expressed by those delegations. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat for your modifications. Is that acceptable for the delegations? Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. You have the floor.

Mr. Agapov (Russian Federation, translated from Russian). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe the problem with understanding this text boils down to two specific words: the word "processes" and the word "follows". I don't think it's about processes or procedures or the order. I think it's about the substance of the discussion. The substance of the issues discussed, not the procedures or processes. And the word "follows" or "must" is too imperative. We should look for another word.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. Now I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

Mr. Tarabzouni (Saudi Arabia). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with the Russian proposal. But [] you know the last word in this, and vice versa, I think we have discussed this with the secretariat and with the other. It has to be either change view or something like this. It cannot be vice versa. We don't work in the UN like this. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Now I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of France. You have the floor.

Mr. Dufresne (France, translated from French). Thank you, Chairman. I'm thinking of the comments made by various delegations. As to the usefulness of taking into account the discussion that took place on the issue, I think we might suggest wording that would better reflect what was stated by delegations, but also the comments that were made by our Russian colleague and others. Maybe we could replace the word "necessary" in the last but one line by "useful". So useful instead of necessary. That it would be useful to take this into account but maybe in other formats. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of France for his suggestion. Distinguished delegates, now he secretariat will read the amended 115. You have the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the secretariat has tried to put this together. And I will read the entire paragraph 115, as

amended: Some delegations expressed the view that the issues which were discussed within the working group and the group of governmental experts on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, and in relation to the discussions on the proposed international code of conduct for outer space activities, shared goals of promoting stability, safety and security in the space environment. The delegations that expressed that view also were of the view that it was therefore useful for the working group to take into consideration progress made under the other initiatives. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat for your amendment. Did the amendment proposed by secretariat is acceptable. Yes, I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Iran. You have the floor.

Mr. Shafagh (Islamic Republic of Iran). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Niklas. It doesn't reflect my comment. It's not 100, but I don't want to be, I mean, an obstacle for the meeting. My concern is the, I'm against highlighting the "some institutions" that is out of the COPUOS. Like this group of government, I'm against it. I don't accept it but, as I said it's not for me 100, but I want to go along with the count. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Iran for your understanding. Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Czech Republic. You have the floor.

Mr. Perek (Czech Republic). Mr. Chairman, I find this proceeding now a little bit confusing. I did not note all the proposals. Could we perhaps have in during the afternoon an agreed text from the paragraphs 109 bis to 115, written in one sequence in the agreed wording? For me, English would be enough. I don't need the six languages.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Czech Republic for his remarks. The secretariat will take it and will provide the text this afternoon.

Now I will move to the paragraph 116. Any comments on this paragraph? I see none. Paragraph 116 is adopted.

Paragraph 117. I see no comment. 117 is adopted.

118. I see none 118 is adopted.

119. I see none. 119 is adopted.

120. 120 is adopted.

I recognize the distinguished representative of France. You have the floor.

Mr. Dufresne (France, translated from French). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a question. In the wake of the comment made by our Czech colleague, should we understand that there was consensus on this paragraph in the room. And if there was consensus, why this comment from the Czech Republic? Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of France for his question. I understand that exact text is not [] by delegates. So I think Czech Republic wanted to help the text itself. But the old paragraph which we adopted was adopted. So the old paragraph from 109 to 115 it was adopted during session. Is that ok for you? Yes. Yes, distinguished delegate from Switzerland, you have the floor.

Ms. Archinard (Switzerland, translated from French). Thank you, Chairman. Please allow me to come back to paragraph 114 because our delegation was among those that believed that guidelines should be clearer, more concise and precise. And we said more specific. So we'd like to add the word there specific. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland for her remarks. And the secretariat will announce the final version of this text. Secretariat, you have the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the paragraph then with the changes would read as follows: Some delegations expressed the view that the guidelines should be clarified and made more concise, precise and specific, and so forth.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat. Is that amendment is acceptable for the delegation? I see none. So 114 is amended as such. And 114 is adopted.

So now we will move to the adoption of the paragraph 121. Yes, distinguished representative of Canada, you have the floor.

Mr. Kendall (Canada). I'm sorry to bring back to 114, but the secretariat did not mention the last part of that paragraph, and that there should be a clear path to their implementation. I assume that that's still in ... ok, ok.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Canada for his comment. The final text part will be remain as it is.

Now the paragraph 121. Is there any comments? Yes, distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

Mr. Tarabzouni (Saudi Arabia). The view which is actually, you know, some delegations because it is actually there is more than one who express and we hear this from the others. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. Now we'll take it to some delegations for the view. Is there any comments. I see none. 121 is adopted.

The paragraph 122. I see no comments. 122 is adopted.

Paragraph 123. I see no comments. Paragraph 123 is adopted.

Paragraph 124. Paragraph 124 is adopted.

Paragraph 125. Paragraph 123 is adopted.

Paragraph 126. I see none. Paragraph 126 is adopted.

Paragraph 127, the next the agenda. I see no comments. Paragraph 127 is adopted, as a whole.

Paragraph 128. Paragraph 128 is adopted.

Paragraph 129. I see no comments. Paragraph 129 is adopted.

So we have now adopted the third part of the report, as amended. We will now start with the adoption of the fourth part of the report. Yes, distinguished representative of Chile. You have the floor.

Ms. Alvarez (Chile, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Chairman. I would like to ask whether we could return for a moment to the draft report A/AC.105/L.287/Addendum.1. Could we return to that document just for one moment, please?

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Chile. And you had the focus with secretariat so you understand.

And now we will now start with adoption of the fourth part of the report, document A/AC.105/L.287/Add.3, addendum 3. Addendum 3 of the report contains the following parts: Space and sustainable development, Spin-off benefits of space technology, Review of current status, Space and water and Use of space technology in the United Nations system. Do all delegations have before them document A/AC.105/L.287 addendum 3? So I will proceed with addendum 3, paragraph 1.

Paragraph 1. I see no comments. Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. Paragraph 2 is adopted.

Paragraph 3. Paragraph 3 is adopted.

Paragraph 4. 4 is adopted.

Paragraph 5. Paragraph 5 is adopted.

Paragraph 6. Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Paragraph 7. Paragraph 7 is adopted.

Paragraph 8. Paragraph 8 is adopted.

Paragraph 9. Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Paragraph 10. 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11. Paragraph 11 is adopted.

Paragraph 12. 12 is adopted.

Paragraph 13. Paragraph 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. Paragraph 14 is adopted.

Paragraph 15. 15 is adopted.

Paragraph 16. 16 is adopted.

Paragraph 17. 17 is adopted.

Paragraph 18. Paragraph 18 is adopted.

Paragraph 19. 19 is adopted.

Paragraph 20. Paragraph 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21. 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23. 23 is adopted.

Paragraph 24. 24 is adopted.

Paragraph 25. I see no comments. Paragraph 25 is adopted.

Paragraph 26. I see none. Paragraph 26 is adopted.

Paragraph 27. 27 is adopted.

Paragraph 28. 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. Paragraph 29 is adopted.

Paragraph 30. Paragraph 30 is adopted.

Paragraph 31. Paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. 32 is adopted.

Paragraph 33. Paragraph 33 is adopted.

Paragraph 34. 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. I see no comments. Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Paragraph 36. 36 is adopted.

Paragraph 37. 37 is adopted.

Paragraph 38. 38 is adopted.

Paragraph 39. 39 is adopted.

Paragraph 40. I see none. Paragraph 40 is adopted.

Paragraph 41. 41 is adopted.

Paragraph 42. I see no comments. Paragraph 42 is adopted.

Paragraph 43. I notice the distinguished representative of Switzerland. You have the floor.

Ms. Archinard (Switzerland, translated from French). [[Translator: there's a technical problem. One moment please. We are going to try and solve it.]]

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Yes, we didn't hear but I understood Switzerland should be included in this paragraph. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland. Yes [[Translator: interpretation is working now.]]

So we will add Switzerland ... and paragraph 42 is adopted, without sorry. Distinguished delegate of Mexico, you have the floor.

Ms. Ramirez (Mexico, translated from Spanish). It's more of a formal question. We didn't hear the interpretation into Spanish when the Swiss delegate was speaking, or when the secretariat was speaking just now. [[Translator: there was a technical issue that has now been resolved.]]

Mr. Chairman. Now the interpretation is recovered, so I'll say that under the paragraph 42, distinguished delegate of Switzerland, she wishing to add the Swiss, Switzerland in this paragraph. So that amendment will be done. With that amendment, paragraph 42 is adopted.

Now I will proceed to paragraph 43. Any comments? Paragraph 43 is adopted.

Paragraph 44. 44 is adopted.

Paragraph 45. I see no comments. Paragraph 45 is adopted.

Paragraph 46. 46 is adopted.

Paragraph 47. I see no comments. Paragraph 47 is adopted.

Paragraph 48. Paragraph 48 is adopted.

Paragraph 49. 49 is adopted.

Paragraph 50. I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

Mr. Tarabzouni (Saudi Arabia). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think, you know, this has been discussed with many, not just only the view of one. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for his amendment. So we will have the, some delegation for the view. Yes, we will take that amendment.

Now the paragraph 50 is adopted, as amended.

So we have now adopted addendum 3 of the document. Distinguished delegates, now the report of the Committee, addendum 4, and the text of the L.288, which was proposal made by Japan, is now available in the pigeonholes. So we will have 10 minutes break for your reviews on those text.

Distinguished delegates. Distinguished delegates I would now like to start with the adoption of the fifth part of the report, document A/AC.105/L.287 addendum 4. Addendum 4 of the report contains the following parts: Space and climate change, Future role of the Committee and Other matters. Do all delegations have before them document A/AC.105/L.287/Addendum 4? So if you have the document I will proceed the adoption of this document.

Paragraph 1. I see none. Paragraph 1 is adopted.

Paragraph 2. Paragraph 2 is adopted.

Paragraph 3. Paragraph 3 is adopted.

Paragraph 4. I see no comments. Paragraph 4 is adopted.

Paragraph 5. Paragraph 5 is adopted.

Paragraph 6. Paragraph 6 is adopted.

Paragraph 7. 7 is adopted.

Paragraph 8. 8 is adopted.

Paragraph 9. Paragraph 9 is adopted.

Paragraph 10. 10 is adopted.

Paragraph 11. 11 is adopted.

Paragraph 12. 12 is adopted.

Paragraph 13. 13 is adopted.

Paragraph 14. Paragraph 14 is adopted.

Paragraph 15. 15 is adopted.

Paragraph 16. 16 is adopted.

Paragraph 17. Paragraph 17 is adopted.

Paragraph 18. 18 is adopted.

Paragraph 19. Paragraph 19 is adopted.

Paragraph 20. 20 is adopted.

Paragraph 21. Paragraph 21 is adopted.

Paragraph 22. Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Venezuela. You have the floor.

Mr. Becerra (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this paragraph it was agreed, and we suggest that, after the word norms or standards, the word binding, or rather before, in English, the word binding should be inserted. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela for his remarks. Do I take this? Yes. Binding norms. With that amendment, the paragraph 22 is acceptable? I see none. Paragraph 22 is adopted.

Paragraph 23. Distinguished representative of China. You have the floor.

Mr. X. Ma (China, translated from Chinese). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Chinese delegation would like to introduce some revisions to this paragraph, which is 23. That is the second sentence will be changing to: to facilitate the parties to change the situation where there is a unified concept and constantly improve the regime in outer space. So let me just read the English. I'm sorry, just a moment. I give you the English version. Yes. The English version is as follow: COPUOS needs to facilitate a consensus on concept and specific routes which lack unify agreement in outer space law and improve the legal regime governing outer space. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And also, the translation, the Chinese version of this paragraph is not very accurate. We will provide the secretariat with the more accurate Chinese translation of this paragraph. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of China for his comments. And you will provide the Chinese text as well as the English text to the Secretariat. And with that, you know, provisions do I take such amendment for paragraph 23? Yes. Distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

Mr. Tarabzouni (Saudi Arabia). Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think, you know, with the changes by the Chinese, we accept this and this is, it will be changed from the view to some delegations, please. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for his remarks. And can I ask the distinguished representative of China to change that word, the view, to some delegations.

I thank for your concurrence on that and I will take that paragraph 23 is adopted, as amended, proposed by China.

Now I will move to paragraph 24. I see none. Paragraph 24 is adopted.

Paragraph 25. Paragraph 25 is adopted.

Paragraph 26. 26 is adopted.

Paragraph 27. 27 is adopted.

Paragraph 28. I see no comments. Paragraph 28 is adopted.

Paragraph 29. 29 is adopted.

Paragraph 30. 30 is adopted.

Paragraph 31. Yes, I recognize the distinguished delegate of Nigeria. You have the floor.

Mr. Chizzes (Nigeria). Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry to go back to paragraph 30. I think traditionally we normally put the, insert the names of the new officers of the Bureau that we already know in our report. And I'm wondering if we can do the same in paragraph 30? Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Nigeria for his statement. Now I will give the floor to the secretariat. You have the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The names of the respective nominations of officers were already included in last year's COPUOS Report 2012. Since the practice and procedure is for the nominations to be done two years before the actual election so they were duly reflected in 2012. And on that basis, the General Assembly provided made its recommendations and notifications accordingly. And now what we are doing here is merely to reflect the two pending nominations because we need that recorded in this report. Just to explain that the names are already duly reflected in last year's Report 2012. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat for his clarification. Is that acceptable for the delegates? Now, paragraph 31 is adopted.

Paragraph 32. Paragraph 32 is ... Yes. I recognize the distinguished representative of China. You have the floor.

Mr. X. Ma (China, translated from Chinese). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Chair of the Asian Group, China would like to inform the progress in the nomination from the Asian Group. At present, more than one member State from Asian Group is interested to nominate the candidate for Vice-Chairman so as to assume more responsibilities in the outer space area. At

present, the Asian Group has reached initial agreement. After this meeting of the Committee we will inform the latest developments to the secretariat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of China for his announcement. So now we will adopt the paragraph 32.

Mr. X. Ma (China, translated from Chinese). Mr. Chairman, in view of what I said earlier, I would like to propose amendment to this paragraph. That is to replace the word urged with the word noted. And to replace the word to into [] ... put it Asian State would nominate their candidate for the office of Second Vice-Chairman of the Committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of China for his amendments. Do I take that amendment in this paragraph. I see none. So paragraph 32 is adopted as amended.

Paragraph 33. Yes, distinguished representative of China. You have the floor.

Ok. Paragraph 33. I see none. So paragraph 33 is adopted.

Paragraph 34. Yes. Now I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Ecuador. You have the floor.

Ms. Vasques Orozco (Ecuador, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On paragraph 31, in the penultimate line, it says the Committee urged Ecuador. To us this language is a little too strong. At least in Spanish it is. Maybe the Committee asked Ecuador. That's all.

Mr. Chairman. Yes. I thank the distinguished representative of Ecuador for her statement. Do I take that? Urged to asked. I see none. So it will be adopted, as amended.

And now I will move to the paragraph 34. Any comments? I see none. Paragraph 34 is adopted.

Paragraph 35. I see none. Paragraph 35 is adopted.

Paragraph 36. 36 is adopted.

Paragraph 37. 37 is adopted.

Paragraph 38. Paragraph 38 is adopted.

Paragraph 39. Paragraph 39 is adopted.

Paragraph 40. Paragraph 40 is adopted.

Paragraph 41. 41 is adopted.

Paragraph 42. 42 is adopted.

Paragraph 43. 43 is adopted.

Paragraph 44. Paragraph 44 is adopted.

Paragraph 45. This is next year's agenda. I see none. Paragraph 45 is adopted.

Paragraph 46. Schedule 1 of the Committee and subsidiary bodies. I see none. Paragraph 46 is adopted.

So, we have now adopted the fifth part of the report. Yes, distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

Mr. Tarabzouni (Saudi Arabia). Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I think we have to go to 35 again, because it is actually in Arabic, and even in English, you know, there is something that is not clear, you know. What is said, you know, the Committee encourages States that had applied or were considered to apply for membership in the Committee as well as member States of the Committee, if they had not done so. So what? You know, and after that, you know, the sentence after that, you know, to consider the possibility ... this is, it was not the thing that was said, you know. It is actually ... they have at least, you know, to sign and ratify one of the five, and especially the first one, you know the treaty. I think, you know, we have to change the sentence because it is actually, if they had not done so, so what? Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia for his remarks. And I will give the floor to the secretariat. You have the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you. Yes. The paragraph 35 could read as follows: The Committee encouraged States that were considering to apply for membership in the Committee, as well as member States of the Committee to consider the possibility of acceding to the five United Nations treaties on outer space or at least some of them, if they had not done so.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat for his amendment. Is that acceptable for delegates. I see no objections. So we will take the paragraph 35 as amended by secretariat.

So we have now adopted the fifth part of the report, as amended.

Distinguished delegates. Yes. The distinguish representative of Czech Republic. You have the floor.

Mr. Perek (Czech Republic). Mr. Chairman, a while ago I asked the secretariat for the corrected text of some paragraphs. My request was met very fast and most efficiently. I wish to express my thanks to the secretariat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Czech Republic for his remarks. Yes. I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Ghana. You have the floor.

Mr. Nyarko (Ghana). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will speaking on regards to Ghana hosting the African Leadership Conference in Accra. And I want to inform and assure the delegation that Ghana is prepared to host the Conference. And to be in December. I hope to host it early December. First week in December. But there are some few clearance we have to get from Accra regarding the specific dates. The specific date is not there, but we are sure that the first week in December, starting 2nd to 10th December, within that time the international conference will be on. Whenever we get the specific dates, we communicate to all member delegates and African space science group ALC. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Ghana for his announcement from the African Leaders Conference.

So now distinguished delegates, before you you have the document A/AC.105/L.288 for the new proposal made by Japan. And now you have the all languages text on this proposal. Firstly, I would like to give the floor to the distinguished representative of Japan. You have the floor.

Mr. Yamamoto (Japan). Thank you, Mr. Chair. First of all let me express our delegation's gratitude to the secretariat for preparing and distributing this new L document concerning the draft provisional agenda. And I understand that this new L document is the complete translation of the CRP document, CRP.4 or CRP.6, I'm sorry CRP.6/Rev.4, referred in the paragraph 68 into the six official UN languages. And there has been no changes and no modifications made in this new document from the previous CRP document. I'd just like to confirm my understanding is correct.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Japan for his statement. Yes ...

Mr. Yamamoto (Japan). Please, may I continue that. I just [] confirm that my understanding is correct and if may I would like to continue my I think comment.

Thank you. So based on this understanding that my delegation would like to propose that the, in the paragraph 68 would like to propose that to replace the reference to this CRP.6.

Mr. Chairman. Wait a minute. Excuse me, distinguished representative of Japan We are going to proceed the report of the addendum 1 after your

statement. We will take the section 10 of addendum 1 will be started from now.

I would like to give the floor to the Russian Federation. You have the floor.

Mr. Agapov (Russian Federation, translated from Russian). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me state the following: we fully support this document, submitted by Japan. But having said that, would like to draw the attention of the secretariat to the fact that this is a short document but the Russian translation of it is at times totally inadequate. Would like to ask the secretariat to ensure the correct translation and then to make sure that via e-mail the Russian Foreign Ministry has a chance to approve it. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. Can I ask the distinguished representative of Russia to make some point which part is not adequate. So the secretariat will take that translation again. Can you give us that after this session, to the secretariat?

Mr. Agapov (Russian Federation, translated from Russian). Very well. I will.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Russian Federation. I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Venezuela. You have the floor.

Mr. Becerra (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Chairman. First of all I would like to thank the secretariat for the effort they made to distribute this document in the six official languages. This is an example of work well done. This delegation hopes that this will happen again in the future.

With regards to the contents, the Spanish version is good. It's very clear. It's quite a general document. Quite simple. I think you know that my delegation believes we should promote binding rules. But this will give us a forum for progress. We are not going to break consensus. So we can continue. Thank you, Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela for his remarks. Distinguished delegates ... Yes? Distinguished representative of Mexico. You have the floor.

Ms. Ramirez (Mexico, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Chairman. As you will recall, since the Legal Subcommittee meeting, Mexico has been in agreement with Japan's document and I'm very pleased to say that our opinion has not yet changed. We too are interested in binding norms, but we're also interested in seeing how member States deal with

non-binding documents. Thank you for Japan's proposal.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Mexico for her remarks. So now, distinguished representatives, I'm sorry, distinguished delegates we will proceed the document A/AC.105/L.287/Addendum 1. We left the subsection of 10 of this document. So we will now go through this text of the Report. Before that, I will give the floor to the secretariat.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Distinguished delegates, as delegations already know are aware there are four paragraphs: paragraph 69,70,71 and 72 that were drafted before we had CRP.6/Rev.4 and consequently document L.288 at hand. The secretariat suggests, in order not to create any confusion, that in paragraph 68 the reference to the conference room paper Rev.3 be replaced as follows: contained in document A/AC.105/L.288. Then, paragraph 69, 70, 71 and 72 could be deleted. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat for his amendment on the text. So do I proceed the text addendum 1, section 10, the paragraph 67? Any comments on this paragraph? I see none. Paragraph 67 is adopted.

Paragraph 68, as amended by secretariat. The document number is changed. Is this acceptable for the delegates? I see none. Paragraph 38 is adopted. And now 69, 70, 71, 72 is deleted.

And paragraph 73. The next year's agenda. I see no objections. Paragraph 73 is adopted.

Paragraph 74. I see no comments. Paragraph 74 is adopted.

Paragraph 75. Paragraph 75 is adopted.

Paragraph 76. I see no comments. Paragraph 76 is adopted.

Paragraph 77. I see no comments. Paragraph 77 is adopted.

Now I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Chile. You have the floor.

Ms. Alvarez (Chile/GRULAC, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Chairman. My delegation, on behalf of GRULAC, would like to include a new paragraph after paragraph 77. It would be paragraph 78. May I read it?

Some delegations expressed the opinion that regarding the debate on criteria to optimize the work of the Legal Subcommittee, the current two-week duration of the works of the Subcommittee should be

maintained in order to adequately deal with aspects of the legal framework of space affairs. Bearing in mind that the Legal Subcommittee is continuing to debate subjects which require discussion. I can give you the copy of the text.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Chile for her remarks. Distinguished delegates, if there is no objections, we will take this addition to the report, 77 bis as proposed by Chile and text will be handed to the secretariat later. So, distinguished delegates, now we adopt addendum 1 at this time.

Distinguished delegates, I have the request from the distinguished representative of Azerbaijan want to make a statement. The distinguished representative of Azerbaijan, you have the floor.

Ms. Abdurahmanova (Azerbaijan). Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. And so I would like to express on behalf of our delegation our gratitude to the Chairmanship and to the secretariat for the work done within the fifty-sixth session of the Committee. And express my apologies for coming back to the draft report, chapter 1. But there is an important information that our delegation would like to state, and it's as follows: I would like to inform the distinguished Committee that this year, on February 8, Azerbaijan launched its first national telecommunications satellite Azerspace into orbit from Guiana Space Centre in French Guiana. The satellite covers Europe, Africa and significant part of Asian countries.

Azerspace is designed to provide broadcasting, Internet access, data transition and governmental communications. In accordance with paragraph 1 of the General Assembly resolution 1721B 16 of 21 December 1961, the satellite has already been registered in the UN Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space. And it's important for our delegation to reflect the launch of its first national satellite in the report of the Committee. And with this regards, we would like to propose a relevant paragraph, and it will read as follows: The Committee also congratulated Azerbaijan on successful launch of its first national telecommunications satellite, on February 8, 2013. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Mr. Chairperson. I thank the distinguished representative of Azerbaijan for her statement. So distinguished delegate, we will add the text in the document A/AC.105/L.287, page 4, after paragraph 19. We will have the text 19 bis, as proposed by Azerbaijan. We take it, so it will be added in the 19 bis in this text. Is that acceptable for the delegation? I see none. Yes, I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Ecuador. You have the floor.

Ms. Vasquez Orozco (Ecuador, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Chairman. First of all, my delegation would like to ask for your indulgence. I was not here when the draft of addendum 1 was adopted and we would like to include a paragraph on the launch of Ecuador's first satellite, Picasso. We will provide the text to the secretariat, and it will be very similar to the statement we made on the first day. It will be very short and concise, if you would allow us to do that. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Ecuador for her statement. I'll give the floor to the secretariat. You have the floor.

Mr. Hedman (Secretariat). Just to clarify so that the secretariat gets everything correct, we are now in document L.287, which is the first part of the report. And delegations will see paragraph 19 on page 4 relates to the launch by China. Then it was proposed by the delegation of Azerbaijan to include the proposal that was read out as 19 bis. Is it correctly understood that it could then be paragraph 19 ter reflecting the launch of the satellite that was already now explained by Ecuador, and that a paper was to be handed in with the exact text of that reference. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the secretariat for his clarifications. So is that acceptable for the delegates to add 19 ter? I see none. So 19 ter is adopted.

So document addendum or no, 287 is all finished. Now, distinguished delegates, we have now adopted all parts of the Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space to the General Assembly. Can I take it that the Committee adopts the entire report, as amended? I see no objections. The Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space to the General Assembly is adopted.

Distinguished delegates, I would now like to thank you for your support and cooperation to proceed this fifty-sixth Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space. Thanks to you all, this has been a very productive session with much progress on our agenda, although we have more hard work and important work ahead of us.

As I expressed in my paper, CRP.10, during the session, COPUOS should take its leading role of outer space activities and the peaceful use of outer space for the next half century. In this regard, long-term sustainability of outer space activities are for every country important. And I'm sure the peaceful use of outer space will contribute to the socioeconomical benefit of humankind on the Earth. Therefore, in accordance with the principle of the space treaties, the international collaboration among us must be promoted and facilitate contribution of space activity to the

development of human society with international cooperation.

As you know, this is the last session for me to preside. I truly believe this Committee has an important role for the welfare of the world. I'm certain we can continue our contribution to the world and that the next Chair's leadership.

Before I close the session, I have one more final announcement to make. First, I want to thank all of you for your substantial contribution to the work of the Committee. Everyone, thank you for your support. I also would like to specifically address the work of thanks to the two Vice-Chairpersons who have done an excellent job. And to Mr. Niklas Hedman and his staff, who tirelessly supported our Committee's work. It has been great honour and privilege to work with all of you, both last year and this year.

In addition, I would like to take this opportunity again to express sincere my appreciation to the Director of Ms. Mazlan Othman. It's extremely sad we cannot see you next year, session. I thank you for your long dedication to the work. I also like to that the interpreters. I'm not English-speaking native. Without your excellent job, we will not have a good communication among us. I thank you all again.

Distinguished delegates, I now declare closure of the fifty-sixth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Please have a safe journey home.

Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of Nigeria. You have the floor.

Mr. Abiodun (Nigeria). Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry that I've asked for the floor just before you said you were closing the meeting. But I would have like to speak before you close the meeting. So if you don't mind just put your [] in reverse. And in making that request, let me just simply state that it has been a great pleasure, not only for my delegation, but for the African Group to see you as the Chairman the last two sessions. You have done a wonderful job. You've been a very dedicated person. A very thoughtful individual. And you have guided us through difficult routes in a manner typical of Japanese tradition. So I just want to thank you very much. I know you are going to hand over to your successor next June. But in the interim period, before you do so, let us continue to benefit from your wisdom and your [] you have gained in guiding us through.

While I have the floor, let me bid Ms. Othman. Farewell. On behalf of the African Group we sincerely appreciate the contribution you've made to the Office, to the Committee and the African region and other regions of the world as well. Your intellect is

something all of us really appreciate. And I want to thank all the colleagues in the Office and the expert, Dr. Doi, Mr. Hedman and people in the conference committee section. As well as the interpreters and you conference officers. I think I even bothered the conference officers this time more than at any other time. So I thank you, my colleagues in the Committee. Seeing you here is always a joy. So, I just want to say, thank you very much to everyone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Nigeria for his warm words. Now I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of Venezuela. You have the floor.

Mr. Becerra (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, translated from Spanish). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Don't worry, please, we have no objection. Very quickly, this is a very interesting time in which we were fortunate enough to live. And we're grateful to you and to everyone for this excellent work. Thank you very much, and we're really rejoice at this success of the session.

Now directly to Madame Mazlan Othman. We cannot leave without paying tribute to her. You are an extraordinary woman. All of us who know you have the deepest respect for you as a scientist, as a professional. but we also want to emphasize your human qualities. You've been an example for all of us to follow, of many delegations, certainly for mine. For all of us. Your dedication, your work, your sense of responsibility and your honesty. These are words that I'm saying directly from the heart. We wish you great success in all of your endeavours. We hope to be able to see you and follow you in your work and see how you continue promoting space activities. We know there's a lot to do and you have a lot to contribute. In accordance with what was said here regarding pioneer women in outer space, we think that we should also honour women who pioneered the promotion of the peaceful uses of outer space. And you are one of those women. So my respect, my admiration for you and for your entire team that has worked so hard under your leadership during the session.

Not to take more of your time, we'd like to recognize the work of people who contributed very much to the success of our session: Mr. James Higgins, who may not be with us in the future, I don't think he's in the room now, but we know that his colleagues will convey to him our great respect, great appreciation of his work. I'm speaking not just on my own behalf, on behalf of the entire Committee. We know his work very well. And really value it. We hope that the United States delegation will replace him with a friend and a professional who will be as strong and as wonderful in

the future. Thank you very much. This is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela for his warm and wonderful words. And now I will give the floor to distinguished representative of Romania. You have the floor.

Mr. Prunario (Romania). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to add my congratulations to you and to the secretariat for the wonderful work you did during the last two years. I appreciate very much your professionalism and your efficiency in solving difficult problems that appeared during the work of the Committee. In the same time, my highest appreciation for Mazlan Othman. We had a perfect understanding during my Chairmanship of COPUOS, during this Chairmanship. And we really regret her leave and expect to have a new director at the same level. Very much appreciations for the work of the secretariat, for Nikals Hedman, for very efficient and precise work they ever did. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of Romania for his heartfelt words. And now I will give the floor to the distinguished representative of the United States. You have the floor.

Mr. Hodgkins (United States). Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I'd like to join those who've spoken before me in congratulating you on an outstanding job as Chair over the past two years. It's been a great pleasure to work with you and you should be very proud of what you've been able to accomplish as Chair. And of course we also want to extend a deep appreciation to Mazlan Othman for the outstanding job that she's done as director and wish her all the best in the future.

My distinguished colleagues from Venezuela made mention of Jim Higgins. I just wanted to clarify, for those of you who do know him, Jim is intending to retire from NASA at the end of this year. So he will not be returning to the Subcommittee or to the Committee. I can say that he's had an excellent experience and greatly appreciates the comradery and the cooperativeness that he's experienced with the Subcommittee, the secretariat and the full Committee. And I will pass along to him the expression of gratitude from our Venezuelan colleague and from those others of you who wish him well. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman. I thank the distinguished representative of the United States for his warm words and announcement.

So the meeting is closed. Thank you very much.