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INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON PRINCIPLES
GOVERNING THE USE BY STATES OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES
FOR DIRECT TELEVISION BROADCASTING

Note verbale dated 5 November 1980 from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly and wishes to draw his attention to the fact that, owing to a misunderstanding, a separate vote was not taken on section II of draft resolution III, entitled "Enlargement of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" and contained in the report of the Special Political Committee (A/35/582, para. 14), when the draft resolution was considered at the 50th plenary meeting, on 3 November 1980. Had a separate vote been taken, as was the United States intention and as was the case when this item was considered in the Special Political Committee, the United States would have voted against section II, while still joining the consensus on the draft resolution as a whole.

This information is provided for the record in order that there be no misunderstanding of the United States view that expansion of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space from 48 to 53 members will detract from its ability to carry out its substantive legal and technical work and that any consideration of expanding its membership should have been thoroughly discussed within the Committee itself before a final decision was made.

It is requested that this note be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 55 and 56.