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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 42nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KORHONEN (Finland)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 76: INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE
(continued) (A/40/99 and 272; A/SPC/40/3)

- (a) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (continued)
(A/40/20 and Corr.1)
- (b) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/40/621 and Corr.1)

1. Mr. KOTSEV (Bulgaria) said that bilateral and multilateral space programmes had further promoted scientific and technological progress in the exploration of outer space and had demonstrated the increased potential for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space. In that connection, it was gratifying to note the development of co-operation among the socialist countries, particularly within the framework of the INTERCOSMOS programme. Through its participation in that programme and its all-round co-operation with the Soviet Union, Bulgaria had been carrying out fundamental research projects of major practical and economic importance.

2. The report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) (A/40/20) demonstrated the significant work accomplished by the Committee at its last session and its considerable efforts to achieve generally acceptable agreements on the questions under consideration. Progress had been achieved in formulating draft principles relating to the legal implications of remote sensing of the Earth by satellites. With the necessary political will on the part of its members, COPUOS at its next session could adopt legal principles in that field acceptable to all delegations. Other important issues such as the definition and delimitation of outer space and the elaboration and adoption of a convention on direct television broadcasting by satellites should be considered and resolved on a priority basis.

3. Further progress had been made in implementing the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE 82). In that regard he pointed out that a United Nations seminar on remote sensing of the Earth from space held in Bulgaria in the spring of 1985 had been of major practical significance. His Government supported the recommendations of UNISPACE 82 and noted with satisfaction the contributions of individual States in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space.

4. The deliberations at the twenty-eighth session of COPUOS had showed that the central issue was the implementation of General Assembly resolution 39/96, particularly paragraphs 13 and 15. The Soviet Union had put forward numerous initiatives and proposals to ensure that outer space should remain an arena for peaceful co-operation, rather than military competition. The United States, however, had taken actions leading to a new round of the already ruinous spiral of

(Mr. Kotsev, Bulgaria)

the arms race. In order to implement the Strategic Defense Initiative, colossal resources and a vast scientific potential had been mobilized and a powerful propaganda campaign had been set in motion. The implementation of that programme would call in question the effectiveness of existing outer space agreements and pave the way for an uncontrollable arms race and the militarization of outer space.

5. As a peace-loving member of the socialist community, Bulgaria fully supported the documents adopted by the United Nations calling for effective measures to prevent an arms race in outer space and strengthen international co-operation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. In that regard, he stressed the particular importance of observing the provisions of the ABM Treaty of 1972 and taking immediate measures to prevent the militarization of outer space. The security of the planet could be ensured only on the basis of mutually acceptable agreements respecting the interests of both sides.

6. Miss GUARDIA (Venezuela) stressed the importance of outer space activities for the future of mankind and the need for consistent international efforts to promote co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

7. It could not be said that the progress made by the two Sub-Committees of COPUOS was very encouraging. Although some progress had been made with regard to the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, the measures taken to consider that item in conjunction with the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE 82 were insufficient. With respect to remote sensing of the Earth from space, her delegation noted with satisfaction the progress made in the elaboration of the draft principles proposed by Austria (A/40/20, annex I). It hoped that agreement on the legal implications of remote sensing could be reached in the near future. Her delegation supported the recommendation that the Legal Sub-Committee should continue to give priority consideration to the question of the use of nuclear power sources in outer space.

8. Her delegation expressed concern at the lack of progress in the work on matters relating to the geostationary orbit, particularly in view of the conflict between the rules laid down by the International Telecommunication Union and article II of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. She urged all delegations to overcome the difficulties which had impeded progress with regard to the definition and delimitation of outer space and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit.

9. The prevention of the militarization of outer space was of paramount importance. In that regard, she stressed the need for agreements favouring international co-operation in the exploration and peaceful use of outer space for the benefit of mankind. The establishment within the Conference on Disarmament of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space was a positive step toward preventing the militarization of outer space.

10. The rapid growth in space technology demonstrated the immense possibilities for co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space. The results of scientific research in outer space would benefit all of mankind. Furthermore, the commercial

(Miss Guardia, Venezuela)

exploitation of outer space would be a source of great wealth for the countries and enterprises which possessed the necessary resources and technology. However, for those countries which did not have such resources or scientific capability, the exploitation of outer space would further increase the growing gap between developed and developing countries unless the latter were given the opportunity to participate in those activities. For that reason, her delegation felt that COPUOS should consider the question of the commercial uses of outer space. A study of that field could be carried out in order to determine how COPUOS could best focus its attention on that question. Lastly, she stressed the need to avoid confrontation and to consider issues in a realistic and responsible matter.

11. Miss SAIGA (Japan) said that the passage of Halley's Comet in February 1986 was a major area of interest in outer space activities. Japan had launched two scientific research spacecraft which would join exploratory spacecraft from other nations in surveying the Comet. It hoped that international co-operation would be promoted through an exchange of data on that subject. Her country was planning to launch several scientific satellites in the near future to conduct studies of X-ray active galaxies and the acceleration mechanism of auroral particles and auroral emissions. Japan had successfully launched a geostationary meteorological satellite in the summer of 1985 and was planning to launch a number of other satellites in the next five years.

12. It was gratifying to note that COPUOS had resumed the practice of taking decisions by consensus and it was hoped that that principle would continue to be observed in the future. In view of the constructive atmosphere concerning the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space, Japan and a number of other countries had submitted a working paper on revitalizing the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which was contained in annex II of the report of COPUOS (A/40/20). It hoped that those proposals, which aimed at further developing the Committee as a forum for appropriate and constructive discussions on international co-operation, would be given serious consideration.

13. The proposal by Austria on draft principles relating to remote sensing of the Earth from space, contained in annex V of the report of COPUOS, constituted a good basis for agreement. It was hoped that any remaining problems could be solved and that the principles could be finalized in the near future. With regard to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space, her delegation expressed the hope that the Legal Sub-Committee at its next session could reach agreement on the text concerning notification prior to re-entry of a space object with nuclear power sources on board and the text on assistance to States. Furthermore, the working paper on precautionary measures concerning radiological protection (A/AC.105/WG/NPS(1984)/WP/4) submitted by Canada, China, the Netherlands and Sweden at the twenty-third session of the Legal Sub-Committee, provided a basis for useful discussion.

14. The Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee had been considering the technical side of that matter. Much work remained to be done in that regard, and it was regrettable that agreement had not been reached on reconvening the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space at the next session of the Sub-Committee.

(Miss Saiga, Japan)

15. Japan attached great importance to the prevention of an arms race in outer space. She reiterated her country's position that that very complex and substantive issue should be considered by the First Committee and the Conference on Disarmament. In that connection, it was hoped that the Conference on Disarmament at its next session would focus its discussion on the work carried out in 1985.
16. Japan was encouraged by the resumption of dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union. COPUOS could make an important contribution by concentrating on the question of international co-operation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space.
17. Mr. ATMOSUTIRTO (Indonesia) said it was gratifying to note that COPUOS had resumed the practice of taking decisions by consensus and had made progress in certain areas. Serious differences, however, continued to exist. As the common heritage of mankind, outer space must be used solely for peaceful purposes. Any militarization of outer space might further escalate the nuclear arms race and threaten the viability of existing arms limitation agreements. The international community must promote effective and practical negotiations and agreements to prevent the militarization of outer space. The Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, had the primary responsibility in that field.
18. Indonesia attached great importance to the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE 82. His country therefore shared the view that without a substantial increase in the funding of the activities of the Programme and those suggested by UNISPACE 82, the Outer Space Affairs Division would not be able to meet the ever-growing needs of developing countries in that area. It appeared that developing countries with modest capabilities in the field of space applications had been more active in sharing their expertise and facilities than some of the advanced countries. Accordingly, it was hoped that the developed countries with advanced space programmes would make greater contribution to the ongoing programmes. Furthermore, consideration should be given to the possibility of funding the Programme through other means in addition to voluntary contributions.
19. His country supported the basic thrust of the proposal by Austria on draft principles relating to remote sensing of the Earth from space (A/40/20, annex V). Nevertheless, the draft should be further elaborated to take into account diverse interests, particularly those of developing countries. It was hoped that the members of COPUOS would demonstrate the necessary political will so that the draft could be finalized and submitted to the Legal Sub-Committee at its next session.
20. It was regrettable that lack of agreement continued to impede progress on matters relating to the geostationary orbit. Indonesia, together with Colombia, Ecuador and Kenya, had submitted a joint working paper on draft principles governing the geostationary orbit (A/AC.105/C.2/L.47). It was hoped that the Legal Sub-Committee would be able to make progress in its consideration of that working paper at its next session. Lastly, he expressed satisfaction that the Working

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(Mr. Atmosutirto, Indonesia)

Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space had been reconvened and that progress had been made in the formulation of the two provisions on notification prior to re-entry and assistance to States.

21. Mr. LUOSTARINEN (Finland), said that it was his country's firm belief that space should be used for peaceful purposes to benefit mankind as a whole. The advance of new technologies made it important to consider a more comprehensive approach to the use and management of space under United Nations auspices. His country was at the same time concerned over the growing risk of the militarization of space and had always supported efforts to strengthen international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space, together with the sharing of technical knowledge and experience, particularly to the benefit of developing and smaller countries.

22. The progress made by the two Sub-Committees of COPUOS had been encouraging, but it was regrettable that such progress had not been reflected in the work of COPUOS itself in June 1985. His delegation believed that consensus was an essential condition for successful co-operation on matters relating to outer space and hoped that last year's consensus in the Special Political Committee would be maintained. Items discussed in that Committee, and also in the First Committee, would all give new impetus to the future work of the United Nations in the field of outer space.

23. Mr. CESAR (Czechoslovakia) said that the question of the militarization of outer space had become urgent at the time of UNISPACE 82 and had prompted broad support for the proposal of the Soviet Union to ban the use of weapons of any kind in that area. At the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, the Conference on Disarmament and COPUOS had been given the task of addressing that question. His delegation had consistently opposed the "Star Wars" strategy and had supported the initiative of the Soviet Union to prevent the militarization of outer space, entitled "Main lines and principles of international co-operation in the peaceful exploitation of outer space under conditions of its non-militarization" (A/SPC/40/3). The Soviet Union had also proposed the convening of an international conference to consider aspects of such co-operation and the possibility of creating a world space organization for the co-ordination of efforts on the peaceful use of outer space.

24. If the militarization of outer space were not halted, it would lead to a dangerous spiralling of the arms race. It was necessary to hold negotiations on the subject not only of outer space weapons but on the types of weapons and on the full prevention of an arms race in outer space. His delegation supported the Soviet position in accordance with which the verification of compliance with agreed limitations could be carried out by national technical means. It was necessary that all stages in the creation of outer space weapons should be banned, including scientific research work, which could in itself lead to a loss of control. The tests carried out by the United States on the second generation of anti-satellite weapons could lead to corresponding reactions on the part of other Powers. The United States had rejected a series of initiatives to halt such tests and to halt tests of nuclear equipment for laser systems.

(Mr. Cesar, Czechoslovakia)

25. Despite its limited capacities, his country had launched its own satellite in 1978, and one of its astronauts had travelled on board a Soviet spacecraft. It had also participated actively in the socialist States' joint space programme and the INTERSPUTNIK organization. It was active in the field of remote sensing, was following with interest the approach of Halley's Comet, had built an automated stabilized space platform and had installed Czech-manufactured equipment to monitor the phenomenon of the "impact wave" on the PROGROS satellite. It supported all proposals and means to ensure the peaceful use of outer space.

26. The issue of ways and means to preserve peace in space was one of the most important aspects of the mandate of COPUOS. That question, which had been expressed as a priority in General Assembly resolution 39/96, had led to his country's suggestion that a seminar should be held on legal, scientific and technical aspects of the militarization of outer space. The proposal had met with an unfavourable reaction from the delegations of NATO States, and his country had decided, for the sake of consensus, not to press the proposal at the current session of the General Assembly, despite its determination to support similar initiatives.

27. His delegation continued to support the mandate of COPUOS to search for ways and means to keep space free of weapons, to promote the development of co-operation between States Members of the United Nations on the peaceful uses of outer space, to establish legal instruments to regulate the activities of States in space, and to create conditions for such activity in a way that would not harm the legitimate interests of other States. There was no necessity to alter the mandate of the Committee or of its two Sub-Committees. Their work was equal to current needs, and its progress depended on consensus. Various criticisms had been pronounced relating to politicization of the work of COPUOS, but his delegation believed it was right that such work should be considered within the framework of the Special Political Committee. The various matters addressed by it were political questions, and required political will on the part of all Member States. His delegation was evaluating the work of the Austrian delegation on the preparation of a draft resolution and believed that it could serve as a good basis for the further work of COPUOS.

28. At a press conference following the recent summit meeting between the United States and the Soviet Union, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union had said that his country was against the militarization of space and the extension of the arms race thereto. He had also spoken of the need for economic links, which helped to solve political problems. His delegation recommended that such principles should also be reflected in Paragraphs 15 and 17 of the text of the draft resolution, in order to emphasize support for constructive co-operation in efforts to preserve space entirely for peaceful uses, and to reduce differences between developed and developing States in the extent to which they made use of space. His delegation was prepared to co-operate in the formulation of a text which could be adopted by consensus.

29. Mr. TEWARI (India) said that numerous recent successful space missions initiated by individual States and groups of States had shown that the benefits of space had come to be enjoyed by the developing world as well as the industrialized States. The determination of countries to utilize space technology for peaceful purposes was encouraging, and it was important that such initiatives should not be reversed by an arms race in outer space. His own country had enjoyed fruitful co-operative arrangements with the European Space Agency and the agencies of various individual industrialized countries. The multipurpose satellite INSAT-IB, which was launched by the United States space shuttle Challenger, had provided telecommunications, television and meteorological services for the whole of India. INSAT-IC, which was an in-orbit back-up satellite for INSAT-IB, was expected to be launched by the United States space shuttle in the third quarter of 1986. An Indian scientist on board would carry out a number of experiments in observations of Earth and in biomedical sciences.

30. Many application projects had been formulated to maximize use of the data from the first in the case of the series of his country's remote sensing satellites (IRS) which, although primarily meant for coverage of India, would provide other countries with access to its data. Data could also be supplied, on request, to developing countries among India's neighbours. His country believed that all mankind could benefit from international co-operation in outer space and had not hesitated to share its experiences and resources with other developed and developing countries. It had hosted the United Nations Workshop on Space Science and Technology and its Applications within the Framework of Educational Systems in November 1985, and the Indian Space Research Organization had offered to provide ten places for training personnel from other countries.

31. His delegation was happy to note that the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee would in future address some new items and had studied with interest the latest draft on the legal implications of remote sensing. It had accepted compromises on many of those principles, with a view to obtaining consensus on a document at the next meeting of the Legal Sub-Committee. It was also happy to note that considerable progress had been made on the important matter of nuclear power sources and hoped that the Legal Sub-Committee would address other unresolved issues at its next meeting. It expressed concern over the lack of progress in dealing with the problem of extension of the arms race to outer space, both in the Conference on Disarmament and in COPUOS. It appealed to the super-Powers to show the political will and determination necessary to keep outer space free from the arms race. In view of the current lack of progress on that issue, COPUOS had a right to discuss it and to evolve some guidelines to prevent the militarization of space.

32. His delegation's firm opposition to the extension of the arms race to outer space had been reiterated by the Indian Prime Minister before the United States Congress and the United Nations General Assembly. His delegation had called for the prohibition of the development, testing, production, deployment and use of all space weapons. Global expenditure on the arms race was already heavy and was likely to increase even further if it were extended to outer space. Such a diversion of the world's financial resources at a time when they were needed to

(Mr. Tewari, India)

counter hunger, poverty and economic problems was unacceptable. Rallies and marches for peace all over the world demonstrated humanity's serious concern over the threat to its existence. It was ironic that new concepts of security were producing ever greater threats to the survival of mankind. Huge arsenals of weapons had the capacity to annihilate human civilization in a few minutes, and his delegation therefore harboured deep doubts over the introduction of "Star Wars" to outer space. It was confident that all would become aware of their responsibility in choosing between the continuation of the arms race and the survival of mankind. The pursuit of war, whether on Earth or in space, should be outlawed by a consensus of international opinion.

33. Mr. REYES (Philippines) paid a tribute to the scientists, researchers and space pioneers who had enabled mankind to put outer space to good use in such areas as weather forecasting and communications. All countries had benefited from the peaceful use of outer space and realized the necessity for further progress. Despite the adoption of a number of treaties and conventions, the régime governing the peaceful uses of outer space was a very fragile one and depended on the goodwill of States parties. Technology had accelerated to a point beyond the scope of existing legal instruments, despite the attempts to update them, notably in the additional protocol to the 1967 Outer Space Treaty introduced by Italy.

34. Various forums had discussed the prohibition of the stationing of weapons in outer space, which was a matter of grave concern to the international community. His delegation hoped that the two leading space Powers would take the first steps towards the preservation of outer space for peaceful purposes.

35. The geostationary orbit was a precious but finite resource which had so far been exploited mainly by developed countries. Some developing countries had launched their own satellites, and his country looked forward to the day when it too would be able to use the geostationary orbit. Satellite broadcasting brought great benefits but it could also have adverse effects on national culture and sovereignty. His delegation therefore supported the proposed reservation of places for developing countries within the orbit until they were capable of using it. It also supported the idea of a United Nations satellite to serve all countries.

36. Seen from outer space, the Earth appeared a fragile object, and there was clearly no alternative to reserving outer space for peaceful purposes. It was the duty of the international community to achieve that through the Special Political Committee.

37. Mr. TAHINDRO (Madagascar) said that, although the majority of the developing countries did not have the capacity to launch space programmes, they could still benefit from the practical application of space technology, especially in their development efforts. They also wished to play a part in establishing the legal framework for those new activities.

38. The remote sensing of the Earth was a matter of primary interest for the developing countries because of its consequences for their sovereignty and economic

(Mr. Tahindro, Madagascar)

development. Remote sensing had three main advantages. It provided a synoptic picture, repeated coverage and a uniform viewpoint. It would be of particular benefit to the developing countries in the exploration of mineral resources and living marine resources, and in hydrographic research. Fish, water, mineral and forestry resources were of vital importance, but the developing countries would not be able to take advantage of the potential of remote sensing unless they had the national personnel capable of interpreting the data. Training in that area was therefore a priority.

39. His delegation noted the progress made by COPUOS and its Sub-Committees in their work in 1985, particularly on the legal implications of remote sensing. The document submitted by Austria (A/40/20, annex V) provided a good basis for negotiation. However, draft principle XI should be strengthened by stipulating that information should be transmitted "immediately" instead of "as promptly as possible". Furthermore, it might be wiser for draft principle XIII to stipulate that a State carrying out remote sensing of the Earth should enter into consultations with or notify the sensed State. His delegation also regretted that the draft principles contained no provision for the prior consent of the sensed State to dissemination of data and information to third States.

40. His delegation noted with satisfaction that the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space had reached agreement on prior notification of re-entry into the atmosphere and on the question of assistance to States. The subject matter dealt with by the Working Group was not science fiction, for there had been numerous instances of accidents involving nuclear-powered spacecraft. Clearly, the exploration of outer space could be a source of danger as well as benefit for mankind. It might therefore be useful to supplement the 1971 Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects with legal rules concerning damage caused by nuclear-powered space objects. Article 21 of the Convention might cover such damage, but the danger of a nuclear catastrophe was so great as to require specific treatment. The responsibility of the launching State should extend to immediate and future damage caused by a nuclear-powered space object. It might also be useful to supplement the 1974 Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space with a requirement for the information specified in article 4 to include the type of propulsion, its technical specification, self-destruction procedure and emergency mechanisms. There might also be provision for an emergency orbit, so that radio activity could diminish before re-entry into the atmosphere.

41. The area of outer space must be clearly delimited, so as to avoid confusion with airspace. The definition of the lower limit of outer space in a legal instrument would have the double advantage of ending such confusion and determining which legal régime governed the orbit of geostationary satellites. His country had always maintained that the orbit could not be the object of any kind of appropriation, and it rejected the present practice of first come, first served. The orbit should be considered as the common heritage of mankind and used for the benefit of all States.

(Mr. Tahindro, Madagascar)

42. In his statement in the General Assembly on 21 October 1985 (A/40/PV.43) Mr. Ratsiraka, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, had condemned the militarization of outer space by the Soviet Union and the United States. He had also called for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Indian Ocean. His delegation reiterated its opposition to the militarization of outer space and called upon the States concerned to reconsider their policy and to provide an opportunity for the peaceful use of outer space.
43. Miss EMARA (Egypt) said that her delegation endorsed the assessment of the situation given by the Chairman of COPUOS, and it shared his hopes. Consensus had been re-established at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly thanks to the determination shown by all States. That effort must be continued in order to promote the work of COPUOS and its two Sub-Committees, which were the pivot of international co-operation on the peaceful uses of outer space.
44. Outer space must be preserved as an area of peaceful co-operation, for there was an undeniable link between outer space and international peace and security. Co-operation must be encouraged at all levels in order to make space technologies generally available and thus contribute to the social and economic advancement of all nations.
45. Her delegation approved the recommendations made by COPUOS, particularly with respect to the co-ordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system. The recommendations made by UNISPACE 82 must be carried out as a matter of urgency, and States should contribute generously to provide the necessary financing. Her delegation still supported the proposal made in 1983 by the representative of Nigeria that additional funds should be provided from the United Nations budget to finance the outer space programme.
46. Her delegation noted with satisfaction the completion of the three studies on assistance to States in determining their remote sensing needs, on the reduction of the spacing of satellites in the geostationary orbit, and on the utilization of direct satellite broadcasting for educational purposes. Further studies should be carried out on specific international co-operation projects. Her delegation approved the proposed agendas for the two Sub-Committees and hoped that at its next session the Legal Sub-Committee would reach agreements on the draft principles relating to remote sensing.
47. Egypt had been one of the first countries to call for a complete ban on the use of outer space for military purposes. Existing international agreements were not able to prevent the militarization of outer space. COPUOS must therefore continue to give priority to consideration of means of ensuring that outer space was used only for peaceful purposes.
48. Mr. LOWELL (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation rejected the allegations made at the meeting by the representatives of Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia concerning United States programmes and policies. All his country's activities were carried out in full accordance

(Mr. Lowell, United States)

with international law. However, there was one country which, unlike the United States, concealed information about its programmes. The representatives of Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia should direct their criticism and express their concern about the militarization of outer space to that country.

49. Mr. YAKUNIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that there had been repeated references at the present session of the General Assembly to the peaceful initiatives of the USSR, including initiatives for the peaceful use for outer space. His country had always supported the efforts of the United Nations to prevent an arms race in outer space. His delegation was therefore astonished at the statements by some delegations laying equal responsibility for attempts to militarize outer space on the Soviet Union and the United States, and the statement that the two countries intended to create prototypes of space weapons. There could be no doubt whatsoever that his country had always been against the spread of the arms race into outer space. Its initiatives on that point were recognized throughout the world and must be known to all Members of the United Nations.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.