



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.105/C.2/15/Add.6
28 March 1989
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE
Legal Sub-Committee
Twenty-eighth session
New York, 20 March-7 April 1989

CONSIDERATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION OF
THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE EXPLORATION AND UTILIZATION OF OUTER SPACE
SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT FOR THE BENEFIT AND IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL
STATES, TAKING INTO PARTICULAR ACCOUNT THE NEEDS OF DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES

Report of the Secretary-General

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MONGOLIA

[Original: Russian]

[27 March 1989]

As a developing country, Mongolia attaches great importance to the new item on the agenda of the Legal Sub-Committee entitled "Consideration of the legal aspects related to the application of the principle that the exploration and utilization of outer space should be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all States, taking into particular account the needs of developing countries". It considers that the wording of this item affords an opportunity for consideration of important legal issues aimed at the further development of the principles of activity for the peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space and at the elaboration of new norms of international co-operation in that sphere. In its view, the consideration of the item should lead in the first place to the further development of the fundamental principle of international co-operation contained in article 1 of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies.

In Mongolia's view, the main emphasis here should be on developing the principles of the equitable and just participation of all countries in space activity. An important place must be assigned to norms providing for co-operation between the States with significant space potential and the developing countries in affording the latter access on favourable terms to the practical application of achievements of space science and technology in various branches of the economy, and in providing them with assistance in the training of national staff in this sphere.

Mongolia shares the basic ideas in the proposal by the Group of 77 which deal with the legal aspects relating to access by States to the benefits derived from the exploration and utilization of outer space.

Great attention needs to be paid to the legal issues relating to the improvement of the machinery for international co-operation in the conquest of space, taking into particular account the needs of developing countries.

Mongolia is in favour of immediate consideration under the new item of legal norms in the sphere of space activity relating to the protection of the environment, given the urgency of this issue.

Mongolia holds the view that all work on the elaboration of legal principles under the new agenda item of the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space must at all times serve the objective of preventing the militarization of outer space and strengthening existing international instruments on the exploration and utilization of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Mongolia considers that the success achieved by the Legal Sub-Committee in considering the new item and the strengthening of international co-operation in the conquest of outer space depend principally on the demonstration of political will primarily by the Powers with major space potential.
