

**REPORT
OF THE
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND
PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 46 (A/36/46)



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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 33/16 of 10 November 1978 and 35/15 of 3 November 1980, the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space continued its consideration of questions related to the preparations for the Conference. The Preparatory Committee held its third session during the course of the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (22 June to 2 July 1981) under the chairmanship of Mr. Peter Jankowitsch (Austria). The Preparatory Committee held four meetings between 22 June and 2 July 1981. In addition, an informal working group was established which held several meetings under the chairmanship of Mr. Carlos Antonio Bettencourt Bueno (Brazil). The verbatim records of the Preparatory Committee's meetings are contained in documents A/AC.105/PV.218, 222, 227 and 228. A list of documents of the Committee is provided as annex I.

2. The Preparatory Committee noted that the General Assembly, in resolution 35/15, had accepted the offer of the Government of Austria to be host to the Conference at Vienna from 9 to 21 August 1982 and, in addition, had endorsed the recommendations made by the Preparatory Committee at its previous session concerning the preparation and organization of the Conference. Those recommendations are contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its second session (A/35/46).

3. At the invitation of the Preparatory Committee, the Executive Director of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development made a statement regarding the goals and activities of the Centre and their relevance to the aims of the Conference.

4. The considerations, recommendations and decisions of the Preparatory Committee at its third session are set forth in the paragraphs below.

II. REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

5. The Committee noted that the Advisory Committee to the Preparatory Committee had met in the course of the eighteenth session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee (2-13 February 1981) under the chairmanship of Professor J. H. Carver (Australia) and that the Advisory Committee had completed important work in preparation for the Conference. The Committee endorsed the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee as reflected in paragraphs 11 to 15 of its report (A/CONF.101/PC/4).

III. CONFERENCE PAPERS

6. The Preparatory Committee noted with satisfaction that the complete set of background papers had been issued and circulated. In this connexion, the Preparatory Committee welcomed the fact that several specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations had expressed their interest in submitting additional background papers for the Conference. A list of background papers is provided as annex II.

7. Regarding the national papers, the Preparatory Committee noted that the Secretariat had received several national papers and that they had been circulated in the language of submission along with abstracts in all six languages of the Conference. In view of the delay in the submission of national papers, however, the Preparatory Committee recommended that in the preparation of the draft report of the Conference, the Secretary-General should take into account national papers received prior to the finalization of his report. The Preparatory Committee also called upon all States to submit their national papers as soon as possible so that they could be taken into account in the preparation of the draft final report. A list of national papers and their abstracts which have been received to date is provided as annex III.

IV. REGIONAL SEMINARS

8. The Preparatory Committee noted that three regional seminars under the United Nations Space Applications Programme had been held in 1981 at Addis Ababa, Buenos Aires and Toulouse which provided the opportunity to consider matters related to the preparatory work of the Conference as well as create awareness concerning the Conference. In this connexion, it had a document providing a summary of the suggestions and recommendations of these seminars relevant to the Conference (A/CONF.101/PC/L.14).

9. The Preparatory Committee also noted the statement of the Secretary-General of the Conference that the regional seminars organized under the United Nations Space Applications Programme during 1981 and 1982 would be reorientated to focus on the preparations for the Conference (A/AC.105/FV.218). In this connexion, it noted that two further regional seminars would be held in Indonesia and Ecuador, respectively, for the regions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Latin America and that an interregional seminar would be held in Morocco for the regions of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia.

V. DRAFT REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

10. In considering the outline for the draft final report of the Conference, in accordance with its own recommendation at its last session (A/34/20, para. 101), the Committee had before it a suggested draft outline prepared by the Secretariat (A/CONF.101/PC/L.15). The Committee considered the matter and approved the outline as contained in annex IV to the present report. The Preparatory Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare a draft of the final report of the Conference for the consideration of the Advisory Committee at its next session in January 1982.

VI. RULES OF PROCEDURE

11. In considering this item, the Preparatory Committee had before it draft provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.101/PC/L.12). The Preparatory Committee, after discussion of the matter, approved the draft provisional rules of procedure, as amended by it. Amendments to the draft provisional rules of procedure are to be found in document A/CONF.101/PC/L.12/Corr.2.

VII. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

12. The Preparatory Committee considered a draft schedule of meetings prepared by the Secretariat (A/CONF.101/PC/L.13) and approved it with the understanding that it would provide sufficient flexibility to accommodate any additional requirements that might arise concerning the work of the Conference, especially the number of meetings for the Third Committee.

VIII. EXHIBITIONS DURING THE CONFERENCE

13. The Preparatory Committee welcomed the offer of the Austrian Government to host an exhibition in conjunction with the Conference and noted that a number of countries and organizations had informed the host country of their intention to maintain exhibitions during the Conference.

IX. OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

14. The Preparatory Committee considered the question of the officers of the Conference and agreed that the Conference should have a President, 17 Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a chairman for each of the three Main Committees which would form the General Committee of the Conference. It was also agreed that these 22 posts should be shared on the basis of six for Africa, five for Asia, three for Eastern Europe, four for Latin America and four for Western Europe and other States. The Committee further agreed that a reasonable distribution of these posts might be to have the President from the host country representing Western Europe and other States, the Rapporteur-General from Latin America and the three Chairmen of the Main Committees from Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, respectively.

15. The Preparatory Committee also agreed that each Main Committee should have a Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur and that these six posts should be shared on the basis of two for Africa and one for each of the other regional groups.

X. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

16. The Preparatory Committee noted that:

(a) The Advisory Committee for the Conference would meet in New York from 11 to 22 January 1982;

(b) The Preparatory Committee would meet in New York from 22 March to 2 April 1982. A third week will be made available to the Preparatory Committee, if required to complete its work.

(c) The Conference would be convened at Vienna from 9 to 21 August 1982.

ANNEX I

List of documents before the Committee for its consideration

A/CONF.101/PC/4 and Corr.1	Report on the second session of the Advisory Committee to the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
A/CONF.101/PC/5	Preparation of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference
A/CONF.101/PC/L.11	Provisional agenda
A/CONF.101/PC/L.12 and Corr.1	Draft provisional rules of procedure of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.101/PC/L.13	Draft provisional schedule of meetings of the Conference: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.101/PC/L.14	Summary of recommendations made by the regional and interregional seminars organized under the United Nations Space Applications Programme.
A/CONF.101/PC/L.15	Outline of the report of the Conference.

ANNEX II

List of background papers for the Conference*

- I. Basic background papers
 - (a) Current and future state of space science : A/CONF.101/BP/1
 - (b) Current and future state of space technology : A/CONF.101/BP/2
 - (c) Relevance of space activities to the monitoring of earth resources and the environment : A/CONF.101/BP/3
 - (d) Impact of space activities on the earth and space environment : A/CONF.101/BP/4
- II. Background papers on specific technical issues
 - (a) Compatibility and complementarity of satellite systems : A/CONF.101/BP/5
 - (b) Feasibility and planning of instructional satellite systems : A/CONF.101/BP/6
 - (c) Efficient use of the geostationary orbit : A/CONF.101/BP.7
- III. Papers on the socio-economic aspects of space activities
 - (a) Relevance of space activities to economic and social development : A/CONF.101/BP/8
 - (b) Training and education of the users of space technology : A/CONF.101/BP/9
- IV. Papers on international co-operation
 - (a) Multilateral intergovernmental co-operation in space activities : A/CONF.101/BP/10
 - (b) Role of the United Nations system in space activities : A/CONF.101/BP/11
 - (c) Role of non-governmental organizations in space activities : A/CONF.101/BP/12

* Available in the six languages of the Conference (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

ANNEX III

List of national papers received for the Conference up to 1 July 1981

<u>National papers</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Abstracts of national papers*</u>
A/CONF.101/NP/1 (E only)	Egypt	A/CONF.101/AB/1
A/CONF.101/NP/2 "	Syrian Arab Republic	A/CONF.101/AB/2
A/CONF.101/NP/3 "	Philippines	A/CONF.101/AB/3
A/CONF.101/NP/4 (F only)	Upper Volta	A/CONF.101/AB/4
A/CONF.101/NP/5 (E only)	Thailand	A/CONF.101/AB/5
A/CONF.101/NP/6 "	India	A/CONF.101/AB/6
A/CONF.101/NP/7 "	Bangladesh	A/CONF.101/AB/7
A/CONF.101/NP/8 "	Czechoslovakia	A/CONF.101/AB/8
A/CONF.101/NP/9 "	Sweden	A/CONF.101/AB/9
A/CONF.101/NP/10 "	Sri Lanka	A/CONF.101/AB/10
A/CONF.101/NP/11 "	Indonesia	A/CONF.101/AB/11
A/CONF.101/NP/12 "	Kenya	A/CONF.101/AB/12
A/CONF.101/NP/13 (C only)	China	A/CONF.101/AB/13
A/CONF.101/NP/14 (E only)	Viet Nam	A/CONF.101/AB/14
A/CONF.101/NP/15 (S only)	Peru	A/CONF.101/AB/15
A/CONF.101/NP/16 (E only)	German Democratic Republic	A/CONF.101/AB/16
A/CONF.101/NP/17 "	Netherlands	A/CONF.101/AB/17
A/CONF.101/NP/18 (S only)	Chile	A/CONF.101/AB/18
A/CONF.101/NP/19 "	Ecuador	A/CONF.101/AB/19
A/CONF.101/NP/20 "	Cuba	A/CONF.101/AB/20
A/CONF.101/NP/21 (E only)	Pakistan	A/CONF.101/AB/21
A/CONF.101/NP/22 (S only)	Argentina	A/CONF.101/AB/22
A/CONF.101/NP/23 (F only)	Morocco	A/CONF.101/AB/23
A/CONF.101/NP/24 "	Romania	A/CONF.101/AB/24
A/CONF.101/NP/25 (S only)	Venezuela	A/CONF.101/AB/25
A/CONF.101/NP/26 (E only)	New Zealand	A/CONF.101/AB/26
A/CONF.101/NP/27 "	Bulgaria	A/CONF.101/AB/27
A/CONF.101/NP/28 "	Canada	A/CONF.101/AB/28
A/CONF.101/NP/29 (R only)	Mongolia	A/CONF.101/AB/29
A/CONF.101/NP/30 (E and R only)	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	A/CONF.101/AB/30
A/CONF.101/NP/31 (E only)	Poland	A/CONF.101/AB/31
A/CONF.101/NP/32 "	Mongolia/Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	A/CONF.101/AB/32
A/CONF.101/NP/33 "	Finland	A/CONF.101/AB/33
A/CONF.101/NP/34 "	Malawi	A/CONF.101/AB/34
A/CONF.101/NP/35 "	Nigeria	A/CONF.101/AB/35

* Abstracts are available in the six languages of the Conference (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

ANNEX IV

Outline of the report of the Conference

1. The draft report would be prepared in the spirit of the introductory paragraphs to the provisional agenda (A/34/20, paras. 85-98). It would consist of two parts, part one presenting the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Conference, and part two presenting the background, organization and proceedings of the Conference.

Part one

2. Part one would reflect the proposed work of the Conference in the framework of its agenda as approved by the General Assembly. In particular, it would consist of an introductory section corresponding to the opening plenary meeting, three substantive sections, corresponding to the three groups of agenda items to be dealt with by the three Main Committees, and a final section, summarizing the conclusions and recommendations of the Conference, to be considered at the final plenary meeting. The substantive sections would be based upon the proposed agenda for the Conference (A/34/20, para. 99) and would reflect the views expressed in the national papers.

3. The introductory section would discuss themes that might guide and focus the Conference and principles that might guide international co-operation in space science and technology. The objectives of the Conference would be considered, as would the role and place of space science and technology in the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development.

4. The section on the state of space science and technology, to be considered by the First Committee, would review and assess the state of the art and, in general terms, the range of national and regional programmes of space research and technological development. The achievements and technical problems of these national and regional research and development programmes would be delineated and ways of overcoming the problems would be discussed.

5. The section on applications of space science and technology, to be considered by the Second Committee, would review and assess the state of the art in applications and, in general terms, the range of national and regional applications programmes. The needs and difficulties of these national and regional programmes, as mentioned in the national papers, would be discussed. Ways of increasing the effectiveness of these programmes would be considered. The section would attempt to address all of the items listed under this heading in the proposed agenda.

6. The section on international co-operation and the role of the United Nations, to be considered by the Third Committee, would review the role of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international organizations in promoting international co-operation in space activities and would assess the efficacy of international programmes in meeting the needs of countries as

indicated by the national papers. Ways to improve programmes would be discussed and the availability of financial resources, in particular through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Space Applications Programme, would be considered.

7. The final section of part one, to be considered in the final plenary meeting of the Conference, would summarize the conclusions and recommendations of the Conference.

Part two

8. Part two of the draft report would cover the origins and preparation of the Conference, attendance, organization of work and summaries of the discussions in the plenary meetings and the committees.

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