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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
INTEREST OF ALL STATES, TAKING INTO PARTICULAR ACCOUNT THE
NEEDS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[15 March 1989]

Mexico is of the opinion that the item entitled "Consideration of the legal aspects related to the application of the principle that the exploration and exploitation 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" should promote the strengthening of the principle of international co-operation to allow all countries, regardless of their level of economic and scientific development, access to the benefits of the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

It needs to be emphasized, however, that political will is needed above all on the part of the space Powers, if greater international co-operation in space matters is to be attained.

For that reason, and in view of the general principles applied in international law, the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and the conclusions of UNISPACE '82, Mexico believes that the priority topics needing discussion under this item are those set forth in the proposal by the Group of 77, entitled "Consideration of the legal aspects related to the access of States to the benefits derived from the exploration and utilization of outer space, as follows:

(a) Consideration of the provisions of space law that are supposed to guarantee that the exploration and use of outer space are carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes and for the benefit and in the interests of all mankind;

(b) Consideration of the question of access by States to the benefits of space activities in various areas of applications of science and technology;

(c) Definition of the notion of "resources to be shared" deriving from article 1, paragraph 1, of the 1967 Treaty, which should embrace active co-operation in order to take the expectations of all States duly into account;

(d) Definition and discussion of concepts such as "benefits" and "interests" that are mentioned in space law, and analysis of mechanisms and means for the equitable distribution of the benefits of exploration and use of outer space.
