



**General Assembly**

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/39/666  
15 November 1984  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/RUSSIAN

Thirty-ninth session  
Agenda items 54, 72 and 142

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

USE OF OUTER SPACE EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF MANKIND

Letter dated 14 November 1984 from the Permanent Representative  
of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request you to have the enclosed "Appeal from the National Committees for the Investigation and Use of Outer Space of the States participating in the Intercosmos programme to the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly" circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 54, 72 and 142.

(Signed) Harry OTT  
Deputy Minister for  
Foreign Affairs  
Permanent Representative  
to the United Nations

## ANNEX

Appeal from the National Committees for the Investigation and Use  
of Outer Space of the States participating in the Intercosmos  
programme to the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations  
General Assembly

The National Committees for the Investigation and Use of Outer Space of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Cuba, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, which have been fruitfully co-operating for almost 20 years in the peaceful investigation and use of outer space under the Intercosmos programme, express serious concern over the deadly threat hanging over the world of an extension of the arms race to outer space.

They note with deep concern that the United States of America has embarked on the militarization of outerspace, transforming it into a potential theatre of military activities. The plans announced by the United States administration for the creation of new systems of space weapons, supplementing the build-up of unprecedented scale involving all other types of military might, further aggravate the danger of nuclear catastrophe threatening to destroy life on earth itself. The execution of these reckless plans would have a very destabilizing influence on the situation in the world and would bring mankind to the brink of destruction. This would have fatal consequences also for international co-operation in the investigation and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

The National Committees of the States participating in the Intercosmos programme strongly protest against the policy aimed at extending the arms race to outer space and transforming space from a sphere of peaceful co-operation into a scene of ominous military preparations. They are in favour of the adoption of urgent measures to prevent the militarization of outer space and of the achievement of effective understandings on this question. In this connection, they highly appreciate the Soviet initiatives designed to prevent the arms race from spreading to outer space and express support for the proposal made by the Soviet Union in the United Nations concerning the drafting and conclusion of a treaty on the prohibition of the use of force in outer space and from space against the earth. The conclusion of such a treaty would make an important contribution to the attainment of the goal set previously by the United Nations - the use of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes. The National Committees support the Soviet proposal for the prohibition and elimination of an entire class of armaments - space attack systems, including space-based anti-satellite and anti-missile systems as well as any land-, air- or sea-based systems designed to hit targets in outer space.

The National Committees for the Investigation and Use of Outer Space of the States participating in the Intercosmos programme appeal to the participants in the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly to make every effort

towards the immediate formulation and adoption of effective measures, including the conclusion of appropriate treaties, designed to ensure that outer space remains free from weapons, serves the purposes of peaceful co-operation among States and is used exclusively for peaceful purposes for the benefit of mankind.

Adopted in Berlin

24 October 1984

-----