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INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

Letter dated 25 January 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a resolution adopted by the Third Meeting of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works of the Countries Signatories of the Cartagena Agreement.

The resolution relates to the utilization of the geostationary orbit, a matter of priority for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

I would request you to arrange for the text of the resolution to be issued as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space", and circulated for information at the forthcoming meetings of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and of its subsidiary bodies.

(Signed) Carlos ALBAN HOLGUIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Resolution III.43 adopted by the Third Meeting of Ministers of
Transport, Communications and Public Works of the Countries
Signatories of the Cartagena Agreement

Equitable use of the radio-
frequency spectrum and the
geostationary orbit, a
composite resource

THE THIRD MEETING OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS
AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE COUNTRIES SIGNATORIES OF THE
CARTEGENA AGREEMENT

Having regard to the resolution adopted by the sixteenth Board of Governors of
ASETA,

Considering:

That the WARC-ORB-85* will afford the developing countries an opportunity to defend the principle of the equitable use of the composite resource made up of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary orbit against the acquisitive position of the industrialized and technologically advanced countries;

- That the administrations of the countries signatories of the subregional agreement, through the co-ordination of ASETA, have become aware in time of the above-mentioned aim and that, accordingly, a series of steps must be taken in order to achieve the proposed objectives;

- That, despite the fact that some developed countries have expressed their willingness to discuss planning only with respect to the already congested bands of 6.4 and 11.14 GHz, the equitable distribution of the resource which the geostationary orbit and the radio-frequency spectrum comprise must be achieved in all present or future services;

- That the right of access to that resource must be guaranteed in any frequency band which technology makes practicable to utilize in the future;

- That our countries should not defer decisions concerning higher frequency bands since that would be to commit the same error which has led to the present inequitable use of the geostationary orbit in the 6.4 and 11.14 GHz bands;

- That there is a trend towards the use of hybrid satellites, i.e., satellites which combine several frequency bands;

* World Administrative Radio Conference on the planning of space services using the geo-stationary orbit.

- That, for their satellites already in service and those planned, North American countries have taken up the largest part of the orbital axis available above the Pacific Ocean and the continent and that they intend to obtain additional positions;

- That the principle of "first come, first served" has resulted in the inequitable use of the geostationary orbit and the radio-frequency spectrum,

HEREBY RESOLVES:

1. That the telecommunications administrations of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela will present a united front in the deliberations of the WARC-ORB-85;

2. That they shall make joint proposals for the establishment by the Conference of advance planning for the orbit and spectrum, rejecting the principle of "first come, first served";

3. That the administrations should consider the adoption of one of the planning methods set out in the report of the preparatory meeting for the WARC-ORB-85 held from 24 June to 20 July 1984 by the study groups of the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) in Geneva, Switzerland;

4. That the WARC-ORB-85 should decide to carry out advance planning for the geostationary orbit and the radio-frequency spectrum in bands of special interest to our countries, in particular those used in fixed-satellite service, bearing in mind the special geographical situation of the equatorial and Andean countries and giving due consideration to the sharing of those frequency bands and orbital axes for other space services of general interest;

5. That a working group should be established with the assistance of ASETA, to co-ordinate the implementation of the foregoing policies.
