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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE
Legal Sub-Committee

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

Addendum

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	
Colombia	2
Sweden	2

COLOMBIA

[Original: Spanish]

[13 February 1990]

There is no domestic legislation relating to the development of the application of the principle set forth in article 1 of 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. The Treaty has not been ratified by Colombia.

The Government of Colombia considers it essential to pursue discussion of the topic of the delimitation of outer space and, as part of the analysis of that topic, to study the sui generis nature of the geostationary orbit, the characteristics of which no doubt make it necessary for it to be governed by a special legal régime which takes account of the needs of the developing world.

SWEDEN

[Original: English]

[13 February 1990]

Swedish legislation on space activities has been conceived on the basis of Sweden's accession to the principles laid down in international instruments pertaining to the regulation of the utilization of outer space, such as the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, the Liability Convention of 1972 and the Registration Convention of 1972.

Swedish national legislation on space activities is based mainly on articles VI and VII of the Outer Space Treaty, i.e., on issues regarding authorization, supervision and liability.

The principle that the exploration and use of outer space shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries is embraced by Sweden even though it is not codified in any national space law. It goes without saying that the national law is not conceived in a way that would be contrary to the letter and spirit of the international treaties and conventions to which Sweden has adhered.

One way of complying with the spirit of the Outer Space Treaty is to share knowledge in this field with others.

Sweden has a broad experience of remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) at governmental agencies, universities and companies. This experience and know-how could be made available to developing countries where there is a need for mapping and other forms of remote sensing applications. There is an increasing demand for technology transfer in the form of, inter alia, training of both development aid personnel and personnel from developing countries.

An example of such activities is the Swedish contribution to the United Nations Space Application Programme in the form of a training course on remote sensing education for educators to be held in Sweden this year.

The main objective of the course is to develop the practical knowledge and skills of educators from developing countries in elements of the technology, as may be appropriate, in the education curricula in their own countries.

Furthermore, Swedish experts participate in other remote sensing courses which are held in developing countries and which may be organized together with United Nations and national bodies.
