

Information, the Spread of Education and Greater Cultural Exchange,⁸ and also notes the need to coordinate activities of the specialized agencies in this field with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space as set out in General Assembly resolution 2776 (XXVI);

26. *Requests* the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue, as appropriate, to provide the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space and to examine and report to the Committee on the particular problems that may arise from the use of outer space in the fields within their competence and that should, in their opinion, be brought to the attention of the Committee;

27. *Notes* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has agreed to grant observer status to the European Space Research Organization and the European Launcher Development Organization and to invite them to participate in the Committee's work;

28. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work, as set out in the present resolution and in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

2081st plenary meeting
9 November 1972

2916 (XXVII). Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2222 (XXI) of 19 December 1966, in which it stressed the importance of international co-operation in the field of activities in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space and the importance of developing the rule of law in this new area of human endeavour,

Recalling further its resolution 2453 B (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, in which it stated that the benefits of space exploration can be extended to States at all stages of economic and scientific development,

Reaffirming the common interest of all mankind in furthering the peaceful exploration and use of outer space for the benefit of all States and for the development of friendly relations and mutual understanding among them,

Bearing in mind that direct television broadcasting should help to draw the peoples of the world closer together, to widen the exchange of information and cultural values and to enhance the educational level of people in various countries,

Considering at the same time that direct television broadcasting by means of satellites should take place under conditions in which this new form of space technology will serve only the lofty goals of peace and friendship among peoples,

Mindful of the need to prevent the conversion of direct television broadcasting into a source of international conflict and of aggravation of the relations among States and to protect the sovereignty of States from any external interference,

⁸ See A/AC.105/104.

Noting the draft convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting, submitted to the General Assembly by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,⁹

Desiring to further the elaboration of specific rules of international law governing the activities of States in this field on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations, the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies¹⁰ and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,¹¹

Believing that the activity of States in the field of direct television broadcasting must be based on the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty, non-interference in domestic affairs, equality, co-operation and mutual benefit,

Considering at the same time that the introduction of direct television broadcasting by means of satellites could raise significant problems connected with the need to ensure the free flow of communications on a basis of strict respect for the sovereign rights of States,

1. *Considers* it necessary to elaborate principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting with a view to concluding an international agreement or agreements;

2. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to undertake the elaboration of such principles as soon as possible;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space all documentation relating to the discussion, at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly, of the item entitled "Preparation of an international convention on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting".

2081st plenary meeting
9 November 1972

2917 (XXVII). Preparation of international instruments or United Nations arrangements on principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2448 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, dealing with freedom of information, and the preamble of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,¹² which stipulates that General Assembly resolution 110 (II) of 3 November 1947 is applicable to outer space,

Notes that the work done on the draft Convention on Freedom of Information and deliberations thereon in the General Assembly may be useful in the discussion

⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes*, agenda items 28, 29 and 37, document A/8771.

¹⁰ See resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

¹¹ See resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

¹² See resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.