

ber 1961 and 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962, is closely connected with that of the banning of nuclear weapon tests,

Considering that the Heads of State of five Latin American Republics issued, on 29 April 1963, a declaration on the denuclearization of Latin America³ in which, in the name of their peoples and Governments, they announced that they are prepared to sign a multi-lateral Latin American agreement whereby their countries would undertake not to manufacture, receive, store or test nuclear weapons or nuclear launching devices,

Recognizing the need to preserve, in Latin America, conditions which will prevent the countries of the region from becoming involved in a dangerous and ruinous nuclear arms race,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the initiative for the denuclearization of Latin America taken in the joint declaration of 29 April 1963;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the States of Latin America will initiate studies, as they deem appropriate, in the light of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of regional agreements and by the means and through the channels which they deem suitable, concerning the measures that should be agreed upon with a view to achieving the aims of the said declaration;

3. *Trusts* that at the appropriate moment, after a satisfactory agreement has been reached, all States, particularly the nuclear Powers, will lend their full co-operation for the effective realization of the peaceful aims inspiring the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend to the States of Latin America, at their request, such technical facilities as they may require in order to achieve the aims set forth in the present resolution.

1265th plenary meeting,
27 November 1963.

1962 (XVIII). Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space

The General Assembly,

Inspired by the great prospects opening up before mankind as a result of man's entry into outer space,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the progress of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Believing that the exploration and use of outer space should be carried on for the betterment of mankind and for the benefit of States irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Desiring to contribute to broad international co-operation in the scientific as well as in the legal aspects of exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Believing that such co-operation will contribute to the development of mutual understanding and to the strengthening of friendly relations between nations and peoples,

Recalling its resolution 110 (II) of 3 November 1947, which condemned propaganda designed or likely to provoke or encourage any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, and considering that

the aforementioned resolution is applicable to outer space.

Taking into consideration its resolutions 1721 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 and 1802 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, adopted unanimously by the States Members of the United Nations,

Solemnly declares that in the exploration and use of outer space States should be guided by the following principles:

1. The exploration and use of outer space shall be carried on for the benefit and in the interests of all mankind.

2. Outer space and celestial bodies are free for exploration and use by all States on a basis of equality and in accordance with international law.

3. Outer space and celestial bodies are not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means.

4. The activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space shall be carried on in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international co-operation and understanding.

5. States bear international responsibility for national activities in outer space, whether carried on by governmental agencies or by non-governmental entities, and for assuring that national activities are carried on in conformity with the principles set forth in the present Declaration. The activities of non-governmental entities in outer space shall require authorization and continuing supervision by the State concerned. When activities are carried on in outer space by an international organization, responsibility for compliance with the principles set forth in this Declaration shall be borne by the international organization and by the States participating in it.

6. In the exploration and use of outer space, States shall be guided by the principle of co-operation and mutual assistance and shall conduct all their activities in outer space with due regard for the corresponding interests of other States. If a State has reason to believe that an outer space activity or experiment planned by it or its nationals would cause potentially harmful interference with activities of other States in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, it shall undertake appropriate international consultations before proceeding with any such activity or experiment. A State which has reason to believe that an outer space activity or experiment planned by another State would cause potentially harmful interference with activities in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space may request consultation concerning the activity or experiment.

7. The State on whose registry an object launched into outer space is carried shall retain jurisdiction and control over such object, and any personnel thereon, while in outer space. Ownership of objects launched into outer space, and of their component parts, is not affected by their passage through outer space or by their return to the earth. Such objects or component parts found beyond the limits of the State of registry shall be returned to that State, which shall furnish identifying data upon request prior to return.

8. Each State which launches or procures the launching of an object into outer space, and each State from whose territory or facility an object is launched, is internationally liable for damage to a foreign State or

³ *Ibid.*, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 74, document A/5415/Rev.1.

to its natural or juridical persons by such object or its component parts on the earth, in air space, or in outer space.

9. States shall regard astronauts as envoys of mankind in outer space, and shall render to them all possible assistance in the event of accident, distress, or emergency landing on the territory of a foreign State or on the high seas. Astronauts who make such a landing shall be safely and promptly returned to the State of registry of their space vehicle.

*1280th plenary meeting,
13 December 1963.*

1963 (XVIII). International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1721 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 and 1802 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space,

Having considered the report submitted by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,⁴

Mindful of the benefits which all Member States would enjoy by participation in international programmes of co-operation in this field,

I

1. *Recommends* that consideration should be given to incorporating in international agreement form, in the future as appropriate, legal principles governing the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space;

2. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to study and report on legal problems which may arise in the exploration and use of outer space, and in particular to arrange for the prompt preparation of draft international agreements on liability for damage caused by objects launched into outer space and on assistance to and return of astronauts and space vehicles;

3. *Further requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to report to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session on the results achieved in preparing these two agreements;

II

1. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space concerning exchange of information, encouragement of international programmes, international sounding rocket facilities, education and training and potentially harmful effects of space experiments;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to undertake, in co-operation with the Secretary-General and making full use of the functions and resources of the Secretariat:

(a) The preparation of a working paper on the activities and resources of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other competent international bodies relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

(b) The preparation of a summary of national and of co-operative international space activities;

(c) The preparation of a list of available bibliographic and abstracting services covering scientific and technical results and publications in space and space-related areas;

⁴ *Ibid.*, agenda item 28, documents A/5549 and Add.1.

(d) The compilation, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, of reviews of information on facilities for education and training in basic subjects related to the peaceful uses of outer space in universities and other places of learning;

(e) The establishment, at the request of the Government of India, of a group of six scientists to visit the sounding rocket launching facility at Thumba and to advise the Committee on its eligibility for United Nations sponsorship in accordance with the basic principles endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 1802 (XVII);

3. *Notes with appreciation* that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI), the Secretary-General is maintaining a public registry of objects launched into orbit or beyond on the basis of information being furnished by Member States;

4. *Notes with appreciation* that certain Member States have, on a voluntary basis, provided information on their national space programmes and invites other Member States to do so;

5. *Invites* Member States to give favourable consideration to requests of countries desirous of participating in the peaceful exploration of outer space for appropriate training and technical assistance on a bilateral basis or on any other basis they see fit;

6. *Notes* the considerable measure of co-operation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space under way among Member States;

7. *Notes* that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America have reached an agreement looking towards co-operation in the fields of satellite meteorology, communications and magnetic field mapping;

8. *Encourages* Member States to continue and to extend co-operative arrangements so that all Member States can benefit from the peaceful exploration and use of outer space;

9. *Believes* that international co-operation can be beneficial in furthering the exploration of the solar system;

III

1. *Notes with appreciation:*

(a) The second report of the World Meteorological Organization on the advancement of atmospheric sciences and their application in the light of developments in outer space;⁵

(b) The organizational and financial steps taken by the Fourth Congress of the World Meteorological Organization in response to resolution 1721 C (XVI) and resolution 1802 (XVII), section III;

2. *Endorses* efforts towards the establishment of a World Weather Watch under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization to include the use of satellite as well as conventional data, with data centres to facilitate the effectiveness of the system;

3. *Urges* Member States:

(a) To extend their national and regional meteorological efforts to implement the expanded programme of the World Meteorological Organization;

(b) To co-operate in the establishment of the World Weather Watch;

⁵ E/3794 and Corr.1.