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Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Definition and delimitation of outer space: views of States members and permanent observers of the Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

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II. Replies received from States members of the Committee

Algeria

[Original: French]
[19 December 2019]

The question of the definition and delimitation of outer space has been on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for many years, owing to the question of the appropriateness of defining the boundaries between airspace and outer space. Since this concept of definition and delimitation is not recognized in law, it requires the establishment of specific rules relating to the carrying out of space activities in accordance with the fundamental principles of space law.

In reality, it is not a matter of regulating the zone in which space objects are used, but rather of regulating space activities among States. In our view, meaningful cooperation between States that takes into account the applicable treaty provisions and scientific standards is the most tangible and fair means of utilizing and exploring outer space.

Peru

[Original: Spanish]
[27 December 2019]

No concrete or detailed proposals have been made.

III. Replies received from permanent observers of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

[Original: English]
[5 December 2019]

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization believes that the definition and delimitation of outer space will bring clarity, certainty and security to the application of space law. Increasing investments in 5G technology from space companies show that international regulations on satellite launch, space traffic management and space debris removal are indispensable. The delimitation of outer space will also help in the commercial development of space and build a stable regulatory framework that can ensure space accessibility and sustainability.
