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space partner, the United States of America, continues to grow. There have been a number of developments in the last 12 months, but perhaps the most significant has been discussions examining the possibility of developing a joint program for an experimental search-and-rescue satellite system that would supplement existing methods for locating aircraft and ships in distress. A number of other countries are also interested in this experiment, and it may be that a truly co-operative and truly international project will emerge.

I should like now to refer specifically to the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. I have already said that the Committee has accomplished much, and so I believe it has. Nevertheless, I am reminded that last year, when speaking to this same agenda item, I took particular pains to sound a note of urgency, to state that, if greater progress were not made, "technological developments, and the expectations of people around the world will together render our debate irrelevant". My delegation is pleased that some progress has indeed been made since last year. However, much yet remains to be done, and in our view there are two areas in particular in which further progress is necessary. The first of these is the question of direct television broadcasting by satellite (DBS).

In spite of the efforts of both the Legal Sub-committee and a working party of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, it did not prove possible to complete a full draft set of principles on DBS during 1977. A development of relevance to the Legal Sub-committee's consideration of this issue was the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC), held in Geneva earlier this year. This conference, which developed detailed plans for the broadcasting-satellite service in the 12-GHz band, based its work on the principle that intentional broadcasting by one state to another required the agreement of the receiving state.

At the sixteenth session of the Legal Sub-committee, Canada and Sweden jointly introduced a revised draft principle entitled "Consultation and Agreements", together with a draft preamble. These texts, which were consistent with the 1977 WARC, provided the basis for negotiations both in the Legal Sub-committee and in the parent committee. During both sessions, the Canadian and Swedish delegations urged the adoption of the compromise texts, which represent an effective balance between the need to facilitate the orderly development of an important new area of technology and the need to protect the sovereign right of states to regulate their communications systems. Canada is convinced that the texts developed in New York and refined in Vienna can provide the foundation for consensus on a full set of principles at the next session of the Legal Sub-committee.

A second area of particular Canadian concern is remote-sensing. Progress is being made in attempting to formulate a legal framework that might be established to govern remote-sensing of the earth by satellite. In our view, such a framework, based primarily on the identification of "common elements" in the various proposals that have been put forward, should reflect a balance between the need to ensure the greatest possible benefits to the world community through remote-sensing activities and the need to safeguard legitimate national interests.

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