

covering the four aspects of the problem outlined in the terms of reference.

While it is regrettable that the communist states have not joined, it is gratifying that co-operation in specific practical projects related to space research is continuing in various countries.

Canada has shared its facilities at Churchill with the United States for part of its rocket programme during the International Geophysical Year. Canadian scientists provided the instrumentation for two high-altitude experiments carried in United States rockets during that period, and intend to instrument a satellite to be placed in orbit by a United States rocket about 1961.

However, action under United Nations auspices loses much, if not all, of its significance without the participation of the U.S.S.R.

Many questions arise, such as where does sovereignty over air space end, and where does outer space begin? How can the status of outer space be defined if it is not subject to the sovereignty of the individual state? Should not outer space, as in the case of the high seas, be regarded as res omnium communis, a thing belonging to all, and not subject to appropriation by any one?

Another problem, and here I am probing more deeply into the future, is the regulation of spacecrafts. What control should be applied to them? On what basis would liability be determined in the event of collisions and other accidents, what rules of safety should be followed?

It has been agreed that until more is known action should not be taken in attempting to discuss or to solve these problems.

From a speculative point of view, action may now be difficult, but the advance of technology is so rapid that it is now the common responsibility of all nations to concern themselves in order to ensure that the tremendous potentialities of outer space, both for good and for evil, shall be harnessed for the benefit of mankind and all nations, large or small, in the interests of peace.

Ultimate Objectives

Mankind's ultimate objective must be to bring about a regime which will ensure that outer space will be used for scientific and peaceful purposes only. This objective is closely connected with the need for general disarmament, a need which makes Soviet collaboration and co-operation indispensable.