

intentional coverage of one country by another country requires the agreement of the former.

At the 16th Session, Canada and Sweden, continuing their longstanding cooperation in this field, jointly introduced two working papers. The first paper contained a proposed preamble to the draft principles. The second paper was a revised draft principle on consultation and agreements which attempted to link the legal framework of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and especially the 1977 WARC, to a general principle on agreement. This text was consistent with earlier Canada/Sweden proposals and ensured that the establishment of an international direct television broadcasting service by satellite could only take place with the agreement of the receiving state.

This compromise text represents, in the Canadian view, a responsible and workable balance between the need to facilitate the orderly development of an important new area of technology and the need to protect the sovereign rights of states to regulate their communications systems. Canada was pleased at the progress achieved both at the Legal Sub-Committee and the 20th Session of the parent committee, which met in Vienna from June 20 to July 1, 1977, in working toward a consensus on this text and the draft preamble. On the basis of these negotiations, it is hoped that it will be possible to conclude a full draft set of principles at the next session of the Legal Sub-Committee.

The Legal Sub-Committee in 1977 also continued its work on the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space. During the session six new draft principles were developed, three on the basis of common elements which had been identified at last year's session and three which were developed on the basis of new formulations. As well, a controversial text of a "possible draft principle" on permanent sovereignty over natural resources was also formulated.

The draft principles elaborated related to the following subjects: role of the United Nations, dissemination of information regarding impending natural disasters, duty to avoid detrimental use of remote sensing data or information, dissemination of technical information to developing countries, state responsibility for activities in the field of remote sensing, and right of a sensed state to access to data pertaining to its territory.