

sophistication to their own specific needs in day-to-day life.

In listening to the statements made under Item 32 last week, my delegation was happy to note that general support exists for the Outer Space Conference. We were particularly happy to note that the delegations of several developing countries expressed considerable interest in this Conference. This is only appropriate because the objectives of the Conference, as we know, are

"to examine the practical benefits of space programmes on the basis of scientific and technical achievements, and the opportunities available to non-space powers for international co-operation in space activities, with special reference to the needs of the developing countries."

It is accordingly highly desirable that there be the widest possible participation by developing countries in this Conference. Indeed we would hope that all those invited to the Conference will attend and that participating States, which have not already done so, will begin preparations as soon as possible.

It has been said that we are entering the second space decade. We can be sure that many dramatic advances will be made again in the next ten years in the realm of space but we hope that this next decade will also be marked by advances here on earth. We consider that an important step can be taken in Vienna next year to translate this hope into reality.

It is with this purpose in mind and out of a desire to focus renewed attention on the objectives and possible benefits of the International Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and that the thirteen delegations which I have mentioned have submitted the draft resolution in Document A/C.1/L.403 for, we hope, the unanimous approval of the First Committee.