(4)   the nature of legal problems which might arise in carrying out space programs.

The ad hoc Committee obtained permanent status, as a Standing Committee, [67] in 1959 by UNGA Resolution 1472 almost one full year later.[68]   This resolution recognized the common interest of mankind as a whole in furthering the peaceful use of outer space and, significantly, made mention of the paramount aim to benefit all states "irrespective of their economic or scientific development" through space exploration.   The Assembly also noted that the U.N. should promote international cooperation in outer space.   The next significant Resolution, 1721, adopted unanimously in December 1961,[69] would serve to guide the subsequent evolution of space law.   In addition to reiterating the afore-mentioned principles, the Assembly adopted the guiding principle that outer space and celestial bodies would be "free for exploration and use by all States in conformity with international law and would not be subject to national appropriation".[70]   The Assembly called upon states launching objects to furnish COPUOS with information regarding launch details and acquired scientific and technological knowledge.   This information was to be communicated through the Secretary-General who was requested to maintain a public registry of all furnished details.   COPUOS was instructed to maintain close links with the Secretariat in order to ensure full cooperation and interaction between government and non-governmental organizations concerned with outer space matters.

Thus by 1961 three important themes had emerged:

1)   that exploration was to be according to international law;

2)   that all states would be free to explore and use the outer space environment;

3)   that space could not be subject to claims of sovereignty.

These themes were further elaborated upon in 1963 by the very important Resolution 1962 entitled "Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space".[71]. The following guiding principles were propounded: