

the most part between the developing countries and the space powers) on a suitable definition of the natural resources of the moon. States continue to be unable to reconcile the needs of research and currently unforeseeable prospects of future exploitation of the moon's resources with the widely accepted concept that the moon's resources should be treated as "the common heritage of mankind". Barring some unforeseen development (e.g. a definition in relation to the Law of the Sea of the concept of "common heritage of mankind" in such a way that it may be applicable to space, and to the resources of the moon and other celestial bodies), it is unlikely this proposed draft treaty will proceed beyond the present stage much before exploitation of the moon becomes a more practical reality.

In contrast, the Legal Sub-Committee appears well underway to agreement on a set of Principles to Govern the Use of Satellites for Direct Television Broadcasting (DBS), largely on the basis of concepts contained in the series of proposals made jointly by Canada and Sweden. The Canada/Swedish principles tabled in each of the five sessions of the Outer Space Committee's Working Group on Direct Broadcast Satellites, and again at the Fourteenth Session of the Legal Sub-Committee in 1975, are designed to establish a realistic and responsible balance between the protection of a state's sovereign rights, and the maximizing of important benefits which DBS could bring to all countries. Basing themselves on the Canada/Swedish principles calling for a definition which would minimize "spillover", and for the recognition of sovereign rights of states through participation in DBS systems, the Legal Sub-Committee has managed to draft texts for virtually a full set of principles. Disagreement still remains, and is reflected in alternative wordings and "square brackets" contained in some principles. Nonetheless there appears to be a broadening consensus that a final text might be reached by 1976, provided current trends toward agreement on the issues of "prior consent", the right of participation by receiving states, and the definition of technically unavoidable spillover can be maintained.