

CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement No. 57 October 26, 1967

Text of Statement made by the Canadian Representative, Mr. Hugh Faulkner, M.P., in the First Committee on the Draft Resolution on the Outer Space Conference, on Oct. 26, 1967 (Item No. 32).

i have the honour today to introduce a draft Resolution in Document A/C.1/L.403 which is co-sponsored by the delegations of Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, India, Iran, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Poland, Sierra Leone, United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia.

In introducing this draft resolution on the Outer Space Conference scheduled to take place in Vienna from August 14 to August 27, 1968, my delegation considers that it is useful to recall that thematic sessions at the Conference will be devoted to a wide and varied number of subjects. Without going into too much detail it may be appropriate to mention the main themes briefly and to stress that the papers to be presented at the Conference are expected to be meaningful to both scientists and non-scientists concerned with the welfare of their peoples in many fields. The main themes of the Conference as already endorsed by the General Assembly are:

I. Communications,

II. Meteorology,

III. Navigation,

IV. Outer space techniques of practical benefit,

V. Biology and medicine,

VI. Non-space applications of space technology,

VII. Education and training,

VIII. International co-operation and opportunities for participation in space research and application.

IX. Economic, legal and social problems of exploration and use of outer space relevant to international co-operation and practical benefits.

A number of delegations have already remarked on the direct relevance of communications and meteorological satellites to the needs of developing countries, and that socalled "spin-off" from space technology is having an everincreasing impact. We are hopeful that the Conference can do much to point the way to how developing countries can apply this new knowledge and increasing technological

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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.

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