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AGENDA ITEM 33

The Korean question (*concluded*) (A/6696/Rev.1, A/6696/Add.1-3, A/6712, A/6836; A/C.1/947, and Corr.1, 949, 950, 951, 953, 954; A/C.1/L.401 and Add.1-2, L.404 and Add.1-3, L.405 and Add.1, L.407, L.408)

- (a) Report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea;**
- (b) Withdrawal of United States and all other foreign forces occupying South Korea under the flag of the United Nations;**
- (c) Dissolution of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea**

1. The CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on those delegations which have expressed the desire to explain their vote after the voting.

2. Mr. TAUSHANI (Albania) (*translated from French*): My delegation voted against draft resolution A/C.1/L.405 and Add.1 submitted by the United States of America and other countries, and in favour of draft resolution A/C.1/L.401 and Add.1 and 2, because we feel that there must be an end once and for all to the intolerable intervention of the United Nations in the affairs of the Korean people and that the American forces occupying South Korea must be withdrawn unconditionally without any further delay. However, for the reasons we outlined in our statement at the 1522nd meeting, we did not take part

in the voting on the second and sixth preambular paragraphs of draft resolution A/C.1/L.401 and Add.1 and 2, nor on the amendments in document A/C.1/L.407. We voted in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Cambodia [A/C.1/L.404 and Add.1 to 3], calling for the dissolution of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, that tool of the American imperialists. We are not surprised that the Committee did not adopt either draft resolution A/C.1/L.401 and Add.1 and 2 or our amendment to it [A/C.1/L.408]. As we have often stated, that is due to the baneful influence exercised over the United Nations by the United States of America, the sworn enemy of the freedom and independence of the peoples of the world, to the United States' imperialist policy of enslavement, and to its avowed antagonism towards the legitimate rights of the Korean people.

3. It should be further noted that in their attempts to perpetuate their colonial domination in South Korea, the American imperialists are enjoying the help of the Soviet revisionists, who make common cause with American imperialism against the world-wide struggle for freedom and independence, thus completely betraying the cause of the peoples of the world, including the Korean people.

4. We are not surprised to see that the Soviet revisionists are not supporting our amendment designed to terminate United Nations intervention in the internal affairs of the Korean people, since they are plotting with the American imperialists to make the Korean question part of the dangerous Soviet-American conspiracy to achieve world domination. We strongly condemn that counter-revolutionary collusion, which incidentally is the main reason for the intolerable situation prevailing at the present time in the United Nations. The Organization is dominated by the two super-Powers and is sliding faster and faster along the downward path and going to rack and ruin.

5. The delegation of the People's Republic of Albania will go on fighting here, along with the other freedom-loving and peace-loving States, in defence of the just cause being waged by the Korean people for its country's unification and the expulsion of the occupation forces of American imperialism from South Korea.

6. This is the principle on which we have fought and will continue to fight against the designs of the United States and the Soviet revisionists, who would use the United Nations as a tool for their conspiracy against the cause of the Korean people, namely its reunification and its independence.

7. Mr. HARBI (Algeria) (*translated from French*): You will recall that yesterday my delegation voted in favour of

both the amendment submitted by Albania *[A/C.1/L.408]* and of draft resolution *A/C.1/L.401* and Add.1 and 2, with the exception of the sixth preambular paragraph, on which we abstained.

8. Although the terms of draft resolution *A/C.1/L.401* and Add.1 and 2 reflect the main outlines of my country's policy on the Korean question, the sixth preambular paragraph has raised some misgivings in my delegation. As we indicated in our statement *[1519th meeting]*, the Organization has no title to consider the Korean question, which is exclusively the business of the Korean people. Secondly, the reference to an agreement among the five permanent members cannot in my delegation's opinion imply any sort of right for Taiwan to represent the Chinese people. Obviously, the People's Republic of China is the only rightful representative of that great country. Lastly, although the principle of unanimity among the permanent members of the Security Council is desirable in itself, it cannot be regarded as constituting a *sine qua non* for every situation that comes before the Security Council.

AGENDA ITEM 92

Examination of the question of the reservation exclusively for peaceful purposes of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction, and the use of their resources in the interests of mankind *(continued*)*
(A/6695; A/C.1/952)

GENERAL DEBATE *(continued)*

9. Sir Leslie GLASS (United Kingdom): Those of us who have swum with a snorkel mask will undoubtedly remember the first time we were able to gaze clearly below the waves. There to our fascinated eyes was a new world—a world of beauty and mystery now open to human scrutiny. I think for many of us Dr. Pardo's brilliant and imaginative address of 1 November *[1515th and 1516th meetings]* has in similar fashion illuminated vividly the excitements and novelties of the hitherto little-known world of "inner space".

10. Here in the United Nations we spend so much time trying to solve old problems—problems born of the past errors and wickednesses of mankind—that it is immensely stimulating and encouraging to be asked to look forward—forward to the new world made possible for mankind by technological advance. I think we should all be deeply indebted to the representative of Malta for jolting us out of our preoccupation with the present and the past and forcing us to raise our eyes and look at the wider horizons of the future. Certainly in the ocean floor lie resources of immense potential benefit to mankind. Certainly we must be concerned with how these are used or misused. Certainly it is high time we started serious and co-ordinated thought on those problems.

11. The oceans of the world have, of course, always had an intense fascination for the peoples of the island kingdom I have the honour to represent. It has been remarked during

this debate that systematic study of the oceans and the sea-bed commenced with the historic voyage of H.M.S. *Challenger* nearly 100 years ago. Since those days my country has played a leading part in fostering the development of the science of oceanography. We are currently conducting extensive research programmes in physical oceanography and marine geography and geophysics, and into many other related subjects.

12. The facilities needed to carry out oceanographic research are often costly, but the United Kingdom will be expanding its fleet of oceanographic research ships.

13. A wide range of towed under-water devices is being developed, carrying advanced acoustic devices, television cameras and other sensing equipment. There are plans for pressing ahead with the development of remote-controlled research submarines. An important range of instruments is also carried on moored buoys, which are well suited to the study of ocean dynamics.

14. The vast amount of data which all these instruments record has led to the idea that we should establish a computerized national oceanographic data centre. Such a centre would have an important role to play in a world oceanographic data processing system. Advanced techniques are also being used in scientific research, particularly into marine chemistry and biology.

15. The United Kingdom gives considerable support to international organizations concerned with many aspects of oceanography and it believes that the future of oceanography must, to a large extent, lie in international co-operation. The seas have hitherto divided the nations of the world; they can now unite them.

16. Many other countries are increasing their scientific concentration on the problems of the deep. The Secretary-General's note *[A/C.1/952]* has drawn our attention to the fact that many organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, are engaged in studying marine problems, some of which may affect the proposed study of the ocean bed. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, through the Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission, has encouraged scientific activities in the field of oceanography. The United Nations Economic and Social Council *[resolution 1112 (XL)]* has requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make a survey of the present state of knowledge of the sea-bed beyond the continental shelf and of the techniques of exploiting its resources. Last December the General Assembly *[resolution 2172 (XXI)]* endorsed the ECOSOC resolution and asked the Secretary-General to undertake in addition a survey of activities in marine science and technology, including that relating to mineral resources development, undertaken in the United Nations or by Member States and private bodies. The important work being carried out by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization in conjunction with other bodies, notably the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Sub-Committee on Marine Science, may also impinge on this field.

17. I believe, therefore, that the Maltese item before us is not only imaginative and constructive but timely. If I

* Resumed from the 1516th meeting.

understand Dr. Pardo's intention aright, his main objective is to focus attention on the subject and to get us all started. Dr. Pardo has himself recognized the immense complications of the many issues he has raised and he is realistic enough to know that the long-term objectives of his Government in establishing an international régime for the sea-bed and ocean floor are not likely to be achieved either quickly or easily. That, I am afraid, is inevitable with a subject of this importance, and I would ask the distinguished representative of Malta not to be disappointed if that estimate should prove to be correct. However, my Government gives its full support to a thorough study of the Maltese proposals, and it hopes that the committee which it has been proposed should be established can be set up and can commence its work as soon as possible.

18. Let us hope that our response to this initiative will meet the challenge which has been offered and that our efforts in this field will eventually be crowned with success. We have recently seen the agreement of a widely acceptable Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies [*General Assembly resolution 2222 (XXI), annex*]. Now we have turned our attention to the "inner space" of our planet—the "silent world". There are, in fact, many similarities between these two apparently diverse subjects. Scientific developments in the exploration of outer space and of the deep ocean bed have made it possible for man to make brief visits into these alien environments. These excursions have been hazardous and have been carried out in vehicles which have severely limited man's capacity to carry out useful work in his new surroundings. But we have seen the enormous progress achieved in space by the two major Powers in the last few years and, by analogy, it seems more than probable that, as Dr. Pardo has suggested, similar progress will also be made during the coming decade in the exploration and use of the resources of the sea-bed. We do not yet know the full extent of these resources except that they are likely to be very great. But the fact that they will become available for use within the foreseeable future should make us consider very carefully indeed what controls and international obligations will be necessary to regulate these developments. It must by now be clear to all that what is finally agreed upon in the United Nations on this subject may turn out in the future to be of vital importance, with implications which concern every country. These developments may well affect many countries much earlier than the more publicized achievements in outer space. The existence of exploitable resources on the ocean floor is firmly established. They are accessible and their extraction will impinge directly on many aspects of national sovereignty and on national economies.

19. I should now like to explain in more detail my Government's reaction to the proposals before us. We, too, are greatly concerned at the prospect of the possible unilateral exploitation of the resources of the ocean bed without regard to the interests of the international community. Such exploration and use should, we believe, be carried out in a manner consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. Similarly, we see the case for a study of the arms-control implications of measures to restrict the use of the sea-bed and ocean floor beyond national jurisdiction to peaceful purposes. My

country, perhaps more than any other, has always regarded the sea as its first line of defence and vital to its national security. We must therefore, of necessity, examine very carefully any proposals which might affect our ability to protect those shores. However, having said that, I would emphasize that my Government's policy, as is well known, is to work to achieve general and complete disarmament, and we welcome this proposal as a step in that direction. It may be that, after preliminary discussion of the arms-control problems in the proposed specialized committee, there will be a useful role for the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to play in studying the disarmament implications.

20. It may be helpful to the Committee if I set out what my Government considers are the major problems to be faced. Firstly, there are the legal implications. There is a relative absence of international law with respect to the use of the ocean bed, and the existing conventions on the law of the sea do not deal generally with the sea-bed outside certain limits. There is therefore no clear-cut boundary to the rights of nations with coastal waters to the resources of the sea-bed beyond those limits. It seems to us that it will be necessary to reach agreement on the legal status of the ocean bed before we can go much further.

21. Secondly, we believe that it will be necessary to examine the principles which should govern the economic development of the sea-bed. It is clearly vital that the economic interest in the development of the resources of the sea-bed of all nations represented here should be recognized and protected. But at the same time there is no doubt that the establishment of the industries necessary to develop the resources of the sea-bed will require the investment of very large amounts of capital, and that considerable thought will have to be given as to how these installations and investments should be protected. We must avoid action which would in any way hamper the rapid development of the techniques which will be necessary for the exploration and use of the sea-bed.

22. Another, and perhaps more immediate, problem is to agree on principles which can form a basis for improved international co-operation in scientific research into the sea-bed and to examine how scientific information on this subject might be made more readily available.

23. We believe that these principles have complex and far-reaching implications and need to be studied carefully before it will be possible to decide how they can best be incorporated in an international régime for the sea-bed. We believe that this thorough examination should be completed before the General Assembly is asked to make recommendations which could have far-reaching effects on the rate of advance in this field.

24. To sum up, my Government supports the proposal that a specialized Committee should be established to examine the need for co-operation in, and regulation of, the exploration and use of the resources of the ocean bed and to examine the scientific, technical, economic, legal and arms-control problems involved. It might also be instructed to carry out a study as to how international co-operation in research and the dissemination of scientific information on the sea-bed might be improved. As I have already men-

tioned, it will be necessary for such a Committee to co-operate closely with existing organizations whose work may affect this subject, to avoid duplication of the work already in hand. For this reason, and because of the wide scope of the investigations which will be necessary, we believe it would be a mistake to make the terms or reference of the proposed Committee so wide that they would encompass all marine problems.

25. I would like to conclude, Mr. Chairman, by restating the importance which my Government attaches to this subject and our thanks to the representative of Malta for placing this item before the General Assembly. We hope that the welcome we have given to this proposal will be followed by similar expressions of support by other countries, particularly those who also possess an advanced technological capability and experience in this field.

26. It seems to us absolutely right that the General Assembly should, in addition to discussing the important current problems before us, now be giving attention to the great new developments in outer space and on the ocean bed. Man's new mastery of nature has opened vast new possibilities. With these possibilities come new problems. Now is the time and the United Nations is the place for concentrating international attention on these problems—hopeful and exciting problems and not daunting and depressing ones. It is up to us to try to ensure that the mistakes and conflicts of the past are not repeated when we step into these completely new fields of human endeavour.

27. Mr. GOLDBERG (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, this is my first opportunity to speak before the First Committee at this session, and I wish to commence by expressing the pleasure and satisfaction of the United States delegation that you were elected by a unanimous vote as our presiding officer. From time to time in the past you have served as Chairman in an acting capacity. On those occasions my delegation, and indeed the entire Committee, have been impressed by the objectivity, ability, decisiveness and integrity you brought to your work. We are grateful, but hardly surprised, that you have continued to display the same qualities since your election this year, and we are confident that you will continue to guide the Committee's work in the same spirit throughout this session.

28. With its consideration of the Maltese item concerning the sea-bed and ocean floor, the General Assembly has responded to the increasing awareness that one of man's oldest environments, the ocean, is also his newest and perhaps most valuable frontier. I would like to express my delegation's gratitude to Ambassador Pardo for bringing this important question to the attention of the General Assembly.

29. My delegation profoundly believes that mankind's expanding activities in the ocean depths call for new efforts for international co-operation, both in promoting the exploration and use of the deep ocean and its floor, and in the development of the general principles which might usefully guide man's activities in this new realm.

30. The premise on which the United States bases its position concerning a future legal régime for the deep ocean

floor is straightforward. It was stated by President Johnson on 13 July 1966:

"Under no circumstances, we believe, must we ever allow the prospect of rich harvest and mineral wealth to create a new form of colonial competition among the maritime nations. We must be careful to avoid a race to grab and to hold the lands under the high seas. We must ensure that the deep seas and the ocean bottoms are, and remain, the legacy of all human beings."

31. This means, in our view, that the deep ocean floor should not be a stage for competing claims of national sovereignty. Whatever legal régime for the use of the deep ocean floor may eventually be agreed upon, it should ensure that the deep ocean floor will be open to exploration and use by all States, without discrimination.

32. United Nations interest in the problems of the sea is not new; we are not writing on a clean slate in considering how the General Assembly can best deal with the question which has been brought before us. In the fifties, after extended work by the United Nations International Law Commission, a number of important Law of the Sea Conventions were adopted at a conference held in Geneva in 1958. One of these, the Convention on the Continental Shelf,¹ is of particular interest to us in considering legal arrangements which might apply to the deep ocean floor. Under these Conventions, the General Assembly was assigned the responsibility of deciding what steps should be taken with respect to requests for revision of the conventions.

33. A number of bodies in the United Nations, as other speakers have pointed out, have also given careful attention to other marine problems. Through the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has actively encouraged scientific activities in the field of oceanography: the Food and Agriculture Organization has been concerned with the development and conservation of fisheries; the World Meteorological Organization is studying the influence of the oceans on weather; and the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization has done invaluable work in safety at sea.

34. The General Assembly last December endorsed a study of the present state of knowledge of marine resources requested by the Economic and Social Council, and asked the Secretary-General to undertake, in addition, a survey of activities in marine science and technology. The Secretary-General was also directed, as part of this study, to formulate proposals for expanding international co-operation and for improved marine education and training. In recognition of the complexity of the subject, the Secretary-General was given until 1968 to report the results of his study and his recommendations.

35. Through its past activities, the United Nations has already built a solid record of accomplishment in dealing with questions concerning the oceans. It has been responsive to the needs of nations and has dealt effectively with problems as they arose.

36. The immediate question before the Committee and the Assembly today is this: How can the General Assembly,

¹ See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 499 (1964), No. 7302.

in the light of the continuing advance of marine technology, best act to encourage the exploration and use of the ocean and its floor for the benefit of all mankind?

37. This is a very complex matter, as has been pointed out, and any decisions we make must recognize the full complexity of the problems involved. Any hasty approach would indeed be imprudent, but all deliberate speed, not indefinite delay, is called for.

38. What this Assembly needs is an instrument which would enable it to deal with both the scientific and the legal questions involved. Recalling the work and accomplishments of the Outer Space Committee, which has been adverted to by several participants in this debate, my delegation makes the specific proposal that the General Assembly—this General Assembly—take action to establish a committee on the oceans. This committee would:

(a) Act as a servant of the General Assembly in considering all proposals placed before the Assembly on marine question, and make recommendations on such proposals to the Assembly for action;

(b) Assist the General Assembly in promoting long-term international co-operation in marine science; and,

(c) Assist the General Assembly in considering questions of law, including such matters as rights of use and exploration, arms control, and problems of pollution.

39. Such a committee would work with existing United Nations agencies and the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee, as appropriate, drawing upon their experience and their resources. The General Assembly, in our view, should ask the Committee, as part of its initial work programme, to make recommendations for action by the twenty-third and subsequent sessions to stimulate and support international co-operation and exchange in the exploration of the ocean floor.

40. Any extensive programme for international co-operation in the exploration of the ocean floor—as we know from our experience in space—would necessarily be a long-term effort and would require the careful harmonization of national programmes and of the efforts of the specialized agencies. Under the Marine Resources Act of 1966, the United States has already begun to establish a co-ordinated long-range programme in marine science, and we stand ready to do our share in developing a comprehensive programme in international co-operation in this important area, as we have been doing and are continuing to do in outer space.

41. As part of its first report, the committee might provide the Assembly with its views on the recommendations developed by the Secretary-General in his study requested by last year's session concerning activities in marine science and technology.

42. Finally, my delegation believes that the General Assembly, through the new committee on oceans, should begin immediately to develop general standards and principles to guide States and their nationals in the exploration and use of the deep ocean floor. All of our knowledge

about the deep ocean floor and all of our technological skill in exploiting its resources could prove of little value if man's law-making faculty did not keep pace with the march of science.

43. Acting as the servant of the General Assembly, the new committee could study how States might best conduct their activities on the deep ocean floor so as to maintain international peace and security and promote international co-operation, scientific knowledge and economic development. It could also consider the principles that might be agreed upon to help to conserve the living resources of the seas, to prevent pollution, and to avoid disturbance of the biological, chemical and physical balances of the seas.

44. I do not wish to imply that the task of developing legal principles for the deep ocean floor will be simple. The question of definition of the deep ocean floor will have to be considered. The work will have to take into account existing treaties, including the Convention on the Continental Shelf and various treaties governing fishing rights, as well as others. These treaties confer rights which are valued and retained by the signatories.

45. Questions of arms control must also be an essential part of our consideration of the ocean. Complex as these questions are, they must be taken into consideration if we are to develop meaningful principles to govern future State behaviour. The United States delegation believes that we must seek effective arms-control measures as part of the evolving law of the deep ocean floor, and that their development should also come under the mandate of the oceans committee.

46. But we should not be deterred by these difficulties and their complexities. We must recognize them and, at the same time, remind ourselves that we have not been impeded in making progress towards developing a legal régime for space by equal difficulties that confronted us when the General Assembly first embarked upon that important task. While my delegation believes that it is too early to take any final decisions on proposals for a comprehensive legal régime for the deep ocean floor, such as suggested by Ambassador Pardo, we would participate energetically in the studies which will be needed before such decisions can be made.

47. The programme which I have suggested would represent a great and ambitious undertaking for the Assembly. The problems ahead are vast; yet the opportunities are equally vast, and perhaps if we act on the proposal that we have made—in which several other delegations have indicated similar interest—this may be one of the most constructive results to come out of this session.

48. A committee on oceans, building on the present efforts of Member States and the United Nations, could serve as the focal point within the General Assembly for study and development of the next steps which the nations must take together in this field. By creating this committee and directing it towards the tasks ahead, we would take effective action to enhance our knowledge of the ocean and its floor, and to use it for the long-term benefit of the human family.

49. Mr. ZULOAGA (Venezuela) (*translated from Spanish*): The Venezuelan delegation is sincerely grateful to Mr. Pardo, the representative of Malta, for bringing before us an item of great importance and incidentally, to be frank, the only really new item before the Assembly this year.

50. The item submitted by the delegation of Malta is highly topical, and to use the proverbial phrase, if it is late to be discussing it, better late than never.

51. While it is true that we in the developing countries are concerned about the widening gap between us and the industrialized countries, which are at the same time the consumers of our raw materials, the developed countries of the old continent of Europe are in their turn concerned about what they call the widening technological gap between them and the United States. To remedy this alarming situation, under the aegis of the European Common Market the Ministers of Science and Technology of the six Common Market countries met last week in Luxembourg, their main topic of discussion being the study of ways and means of coping with this disturbing gap or technical handicap. In spite of the tricky political problems worrying certain circles in Europe in connexion with the possibility of enlarging the membership of the Six, it is interesting to note that the Luxembourg meeting of the Ministers of Science and Technology took place in an atmosphere which could be described as one of co-operation and absence of recrimination. The most important of the preparatory documents discussed in Luxembourg was the working group's report, known as the "Maréchal report" from the name of the chairman of the group. Curiously enough, the first item suggested for study with a view to scientific co-operation and unification was oceanography.

52. But let us get back to the United Nations. The item outlined so ably by the representative of Malta is only just beginning to be discussed here, but there has already been a good deal of commentary on it in the lobbies of the Assembly. One of the most facile and naive criticisms heard is that his prophecies are over-optimistic. Let us imagine the opposite for a moment, that his prophecies have come true and that the mineral resources of the sea-bed are already producing the wealth put by Mr. Pardo at some \$6,000 million a year. This wealth would be exploited by a mere handful of very highly developed countries. If that were the state of affairs, how could the international community hope to regulate the exploitation of that wealth for the benefit of mankind? I do not wish to appear cynical or defeatist; all I shall say then is that in such circumstances the work of the United Nations would be extraordinarily difficult.

53. For this very reason it seems to us, as I have already said, that it is not too late to tackle the problem, but it is high time we made an effort to achieve something constructive along the general lines sketched out by Mr. Pardo. He said at the end of his statement that he was reluctant to submit a draft resolution officially so as to avoid dividing the Committee. He therefore proposed a small representative group which would be selected by our Chairman. Whatever method we decide on, the idea is to seek an agreement leading up to the establishment of an

international agency; and my delegation believes that this body should be given fairly broad terms of reference, or guidelines as we call them, but circumscribed as suggested by Mr. Pardo in his interesting statement [*1515th and 1516th meetings*] and in his memorandum of 17 August [*A/6695*].

54. My delegation recognizes the great value of the series of principles postulated by the representative of Malta and thoroughly approves of them, especially the idea that the exploration and exploitation of the sea-bed underlying the high seas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction should be in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, and mainly undertaken for the benefit of the developing countries. This point is also stressed by the Secretary-General in his note [*A/C.1/952*] where he refers to Economic and Social Council resolution 1112 (XL) of 7 March 1966. Whatever method we adopt for the organization of our work, i.e., whether we set up a group or committee or hold a general debate, we must face the facts. The hard fact is, as we all know, that the success or failure of many of the important topics discussed here in the United Nations depends on the good will and co-operation of the more developed countries, and particularly the support of the two so-called super-Powers. In this way it was possible within the framework of the United Nations to draw up the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies [*General Assembly resolution 2222 (XXI), annex*]. As is well known, an agreement was reached largely for the practical reason that even the so-called super-Powers are still only in the exploratory stage as regards outer space.

55. But to return to the sea-bed of our own small planet, the prospects of reaching an agreement on principles are good, especially following the two statements we heard this morning, since the more developed countries are still engaged in the study and exploration of the resources of the sea and have not entered the active phase of exploitation of the riches of the sea-bed and ocean floor.

56. I might add that by and large my delegation fully approves of the working method proposed just now by the representative of the United States of America.

57. For the moment my delegation does not wish to embark on any further discussion of the problem of the possible use of the sea-bed and ocean floor for warlike purposes, but we may have occasion to comment on this aspect of the matter later on in the debate, if it should seem appropriate to do so.

Organization of work

58. The CHAIRMAN: There are no more speakers for either this morning's meeting or this afternoon's, and unless some delegations express a desire to speak, I shall adjourn this meeting and cancel this afternoon's meeting. For tomorrow I have scheduled two meetings, but up to the present I have listed only one speaker for the morning meeting. I hope that more speakers will indicate a wish to

speaking in the morning. My impression is that delegations need some time to prepare their statements on this important item, and for that reason I shall cancel the afternoon meeting for tomorrow, thus giving everyone a chance to prepare his statement. Starting Friday, we shall have two meetings each day. With the consent of the

Committee, I intend to declare the list of speakers closed on Friday at 6 p.m., on item 92.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.