



General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 February 2018

Original: English

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

National legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
II. Replies received from States members of the Committee	2
Mexico	2



II. Replies received from States members of the Committee

Mexico

[Original: English]
[13 December 2017]

With regard to the delimitation of outer space, we confirm the information that Mexico has provided to the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which is based on article 27 of the Constitution of the United Mexican States:

“The Nation has direct ownership of all natural resources of the continental shelf and the submarine shelf of the islands; all minerals and substances that are found in veins, strata, masses or deposits and that are distinct from the components of the land, such as the minerals from which the metals and metalloids used in industry are extracted; deposits of precious stones and rock salt and salt pans formed directly by marine waters; the products of the breakdown of rocks, when subterranean work is required for their extraction; mineral or organic deposits of materials that can be used as fertilizers; solid mineral fuels; petroleum and all solid, liquid, and gaseous hydrocarbons; and the space located above the national territory, to the extent and within the terms established by international law.”

To date, no agreement has been reached within the Committee on a criterion for the delimitation of outer space. Some States members of the Committee have taken the position that outer space begins 100 kilometres above sea level or where the Earth’s atmosphere ends.

That topic is linked to the development by States of new space technologies and control mechanisms to monitor and safeguard their airspace. In the case of Mexico, those activities are fully regulated in Mexican legislation, and in the event that a boundary is agreed upon, negotiations will, in principle, take place within the International Civil Aviation Organization and in relation to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention), the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air (Warsaw Convention) and the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air (Montreal Convention).
