

Committee: UNOOSA/ICAO

Country: Independent State of Papua New Guinea

Topic: Environment and space activity

Although Papua New Guinea has had no previous Space Program or alliance with another country's space programs, the push from many countries of a wide economic spectrum for a growing environmental understanding learned from space technology aligns with our country's mission to further our understanding of the Earth as a way of conserving and wisely harnessing its energy resources. Despite Papua New Guinea's nonexistent presence in space via satellites or other types of probe technology, the country would like to be acknowledged as a co-owner of the outer space realm, and also as a member of the UN to be equally considered in having impact on current spatial matters. Presence in outer space is especially important to this country as a goal to have independent control over its own geographical information and technology induced communications gained from having satellites and other types of space probes orbiting the Earth. As of 2014, only 9.4% of the population have access to the internet which not only could unite the disparate peoples isolated due to the mountainous geography, but could also prove useful tools in aiding farmers with in depth weather analysis, which could in turn greatly benefit the agricultural economy. On "reaching a global consensus" for solving environmental problems faced in modern space exploration, such as the regulating of black carbon, and monitoring space debris, a regular stream of financial aid from larger economically stable countries to smaller ones would need to exist in order to provide space related educational opportunities from which one could address these issues with a good base knowledge. A general inclusive point of view must always be acknowledged when dealing with space exploration, as of this moment in the eyes of the human race, outer space is owned globally.

Topic: The militarization of space and international law

Papua New Guinea would oppose an arms race of any kind that demonstrates that countries are not remaining a peaceful presence in outer space. On the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2013, Papua New Guinea along with a number of other countries was represented by Dell Higgle, the New Zealand Ambassador in the First Committee Joint Statement on the Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons. A possible method for defining International Humanitarian Law in space might be to physically expand these laws to the context of outer space. Steps in this direction would include treaties that accentuated that the UN as an umbrella of all States governs the regions of outer space, and to do this all States must work together as one people and not as individual countries.

Topic: Space Commercialization

Having no current outer space program, future plans for programs, or higher educational opportunities pertaining to the exploration of outer space, Papua New Guinea remains neutral on this topic. As a fairly new country which gained independence in 1975, it focuses on the growing of its industry in exporting raw materials and the current issue of global warming having a near future devastating effect on this

country. Investing in aerospace is not at the top of our priorities, however if countries were to extend the benefits of their programs to include a wider spectrum of diversity among space programs, we would embrace that opportunity.