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**DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE TO ADOPT A MOBILE EQUIPMENT
CONVENTION AND AN AIRCRAFT PROTOCOL**

(Cape Town, 29 October to 16 November 2001)

COMMENTS ON ARTICLE 49 OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION

(Presented by the Space Working Group (SWG))

In response to the Rail Working Group's constructive written comments regarding the procedures for adoption of future Protocols by Contracting States to the Convention (DCME Doc No. 37), we support the provision of a process that provides the speediest adoption of future protocols and, in particular, the Space Assets and Rail Protocols, consistent with the requirements of international law regarding the adoption of international instruments and the ability of States to have an adequate opportunity to review and accept the provisions of future Protocols. A mechanism that is the most expeditious that is consistent with the principles of international law governing adoption of protocols should be contained in the Convention. Accordingly, the SWG endorses the position put forth by the Rail Working Group (DCME Doc No. 37) to change Article 49 in order to facilitate the speedy adoption of the Space Assets Protocol.

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