Consideration about Luxembourg’s Draft Law on the Exploration and Use of Space Resources

Symposium organized by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law “Legal models for exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources 50 years after the adoption of the Outer Space Treaty”

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I. Initiative of Luxembourg to mine asteroids for minerals
II. Draft Law on the exploration and use of space resources
III. Outlook.
I. Initiative of Luxembourg to mine asteroids for minerals

February 2016: Space Resources Initiative
February 2016: Agreement with Deep Space Industries
October 2016: Agreement with Planetary Resources
March 2017: MoU with Ispace inc.


Analysis of international framework
Governmental decision to prepare two projects: - on space resources
- general space law

Spaceresources.lu
II. Draft Law on the exploration and use of space resources

Art. 2 – 3 Authorization procedure
Art. 4 – 13 Conditions for authorization
Art. 14 Supervision of the mission
Art. 1 Appropriability of space resources

Subsequent practice:
1985 UN Remote Sensing Principles
1996 UN GA Space Benefits Declaration
III. Outlook

- Draft legislation envisages to guarantee the compliance of the national activities with international law;
- The provision of appropriability of space resources does not violate international law;
- Obligation to inform the UN Secretary General and the international community;
- The impact of the activities - the extension of the knowledge and the development of new methods - will be beneficial to anyone;
- 1996 UN Space Benefits Declaration: expression of State practice.