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English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-eighth session
Vienna, 1–11 April 2019
Item 8 of the provisional agenda*
Capacity-building in space law

Capacity-Building in Space Law

Note by the Secretariat

At its fifty-seventh session, in 2018, the Legal Subcommittee recommended that States members and permanent observers of the Committee inform the Subcommittee, at its fifty-sixth session, of any action taken or planned at the national, regional or international level to build capacity in space law ([A/AC.105/1177](#), para. 136).

The present document contains a reply received from Austria, Japan, Pakistan, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.

Austria

[Original: English]

[Received on 18 December 2018]

At the Law Faculty of the University of Vienna the course “General Legal Framework of the Use of Outer Space Technologies” as well as a seminar in international law with a special focus on space law were taught by Professor Irmgard Marboe in 2018. Furthermore, the course “Recent Developments in Space Law” was taught by Professor Stephan Hobe from the University of Cologne as guest professor at the University of Vienna. The aim of these courses was to give interested students an introduction to space law related issues and to provide insights into recent developments in the field of space law and policy. Students also had the opportunity to learn about the work of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs during a visit to the United Nations in Vienna.

Moreover, a team from the University of Vienna participated in the European Rounds of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition, which are organized every year by the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL) together with the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) and took place in May 2018 in Lisbon, Portugal. Furthermore, students from the University of Vienna participated in the 27th ECSL Summer Course on Space Law and Policy which took place from 27 August to

* [A/AC.105/C.2/L.308](#).



7 September 2018 in Helsinki, Finland. These activities enabled participating students to expand their knowledge in the field of space law.

On 13 April 2018, the NPOC organized the event “The Hague International Space Resources Governance Working Group – Discussion on the 19 Draft Building Blocks” at the Vienna International Centre at the margins of the fifty-seventh session of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space Legal Subcommittee. During the event, the proposals of the Hague International Space Resources Governance Working Group for the development of an international framework on space resource activities was elaborated in three presentations and a lively discussion with the audience.

From 17 to 19 September 2018, the NPOC Space Law Austria co-organized together with the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Graz University of Technology the United Nations/Austria Symposium “Space for the Sustainable Development Goals: Stronger partnerships and strengthened cooperation for 2030 and beyond”. In presentations, panel discussions and workshops, the importance of space technology, applications and activities for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals was examined. Due to the success of the multidisciplinary approach adopted during last year’s Symposium, in 2018 the focus of the Symposium was again not only on space technology but also on space law and policy.

Japan

[Original: English]
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The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) contributes to capacity-building in space law in a number of ways. It has provided financial support to students of space policy and law, created a legal database on space law and accepts internships through its Legal and Compliance Division, General Affairs Department. Most notably, however, during the past years, JAXA has supported the winning team of the Asia-Pacific Regional Round of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition continuously.

To the winning team of the Asia-Pacific Regional Round of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition, JAXA Legal and Compliance Division provides financial support to participate in the competition’s World Finals taking place during the International Astronautical Congress (IAC). Last year, we supported the winning team of the Asia-Pacific round from The Symbiosis Law School, Pune, India and the team were adjudged as the Runners-up in the World Finals. To date, JAXA has supported the members of successful teams from Australia, India, New Zealand and Singapore.

In addition, JAXA continues to provide training opportunities for all Japanese universities and graduate students through its Space Education Center, by funding their participation in IAC.

Furthermore, Center for Space Law, Keio University was established in April 2012 with the support from JAXA to study various aspects of space related issues. One of the Center’s objectives is to offer Asian countries support in capacity building, especially in the area of Space Law. In 25 February 2019, Center for Space Law held the 10th Space Law Symposium entitled “Toward the further evolvement of our space law research community”, and Mr. Niklas Hedman, Chief of the Committee, Policy and Legal Affairs Section, Office for Outer Space Affairs, United Nations Office at Vienna, Mr. Alexander Soucek, Legal Officer of International Law Division, European Space Agency (ESA) and Professor Saadia M. Pekkanen, the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington kindly made presentations and participated in the panel discussion in the symposium.

Center for Space Law, Keio University has created and maintained an online database (<https://space-law.keio.ac.jp/datebase.html>) containing the international space

treaties and domestic space laws both in their original language and in Japanese when appropriate.

Finally, JAXA Legal and Compliance Division accepts students and prospective lawyers from universities and research institutes as interns. During their stay, the interns write reports and make presentations based on themes related to international and/or domestic space law, as well as gather experience while assisting JAXA's work. Opportunities to interview with people in JAXA, researchers and practitioners on related themes are provided as appropriate. In addition, JAXA Legal and Compliance Division accepts to dispatch staffs to university and lecture space law to students temporarily.

Pakistan

[Original: English]

[Received on 25 January 2019]

As regards to capacity-building in international space law, two officials from Pakistan have completed their master's degree program in Space Law and Policy in the year 2018. One more official has commenced his Master's in Space Law and Policy, at Beihang University, Beijing in cooperation with the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific (RCSSTEAP) affiliated to the United Nations. Moreover, Institute of Space Technology a University of Pakistan included space law in its curriculum in degree programs.

Tunisia

[Original: French]

[Received on 13 March 2019]

In 2017, Tunisia was planning to train two people to receive training in space law as offered by the United Nations at the regional centres for space science and technology education or in one of the United Nations States Members indicated in document A/AC.105/C.2/2016/CRP.8.

In May 2018, the National Centre for Cartography and Remote Sensing participated in the training session on space law held in Egypt by the Regional Centre for Remote Sensing of the North African States.

United Arab Emirates

[Original: English]

[Received on 2 February 2019]

The University of Sharjah Program for Space law: The University of Sharjah started a Master degree in Air and Space Law in September 2018. The program has been approved by the Ministry of Education. In addition, the university is currently seeking international accreditation.

International Conference "Contemporary Issues in Air & Space Laws" 22-23/2/2017: The Conference was organized by Sharjah University, and sponsored by the UAESA, and GCAA. It was a great avenue to discuss several important aspects of the space sectors. Specifically, the conference discussed for example, commercial aspects of air and space law, economic and financial aspects of air and space transport, controls of launching outer space objects in international and national laws, criminal and safety issues related to air and space transport, rules of international law governing air and space, and insurance and liability in air and space law.