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English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**

Legal Subcommittee

Fifty-fourth session

Vienna, 13-24 April 2015

**Item 4. Information on the activities of international
intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations
relating to space law**

**Information provided by the International Institute of Space
Law**

The IISL is pleased to submit the following report to the delegates of the Legal Subcommittee.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

**December 2014: 9th Eilene Galloway Symposium on Critical Issues in Space
Law, Washington, D.C.**

The 9th Eilene Galloway Symposium was held on 10 December 2014, at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. The topic was “Non-Traditional Commercial Space Activities - Legal & Policy Challenges, Opportunities and Ways Forward”. The Symposium welcomed several distinguished keynote speakers.

In December 2015, the 10th Eilene Galloway Symposium on Critical Issues in Space Law will be held.

**February 2015: IAA-IISL Conference on Climate Change and Disaster
Management, India**

This Conference was held from 26-28 February 2015 in Trivandrum, India. It was co-organised by the IAA, the IISL and the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE). The meeting addressed all aspects of the contribution of space activities to understanding and solving the problems of climate change and disaster management, from technical/technological, policy and



legal perspectives. It included two legal sessions addressing the legal aspects of climate change and disaster management.

March 2015: IISL/ECSL Symposium for the COPUOS-LSC delegates, Vienna

On 13 April, on the occasion of the 54th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of the UNCOPUOS, the IISL and ECSL will organize the annual Symposium for delegates of the Legal Subcommittee. The topic is “Space Traffic Management”.

GLIC June 2015

The IISL is a cooperating partner in the Global Space Innovation Conference (GLIC) to be held from 23-25 June 2015 in Munich. One of the panels will address Policies and Laws for Entrepreneurship.

October 2015: Colloquium and related events, Jerusalem, Israel

From 12-16 October, the IISL will hold its 58th Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space in Jerusalem, Israel. The Colloquium will have the following session-topics.

7th N. Jasentuliyana Keynote Lecture on Space Law & 7th Young Scholars Session

- The relationship of international humanitarian law and territorial sovereignty with the legal regulation of outer space
- The portrayal of Space (Law) in Media and Movies
- Legal Issues of Space Traffic Management
- Recent Developments in Space Law

The 30th Scientific/Legal Roundtable will be held on “Universities as Actors in Space” and another joint session with IAF will be held, addressing Legal Framework for Collaborative Space Endeavours. IISL has also submitted a proposal for a plenary session on small satellites. Lastly, the IISL will again contribute to the UN/IAF Workshop by providing speakers on legal topics of relevance for the workshop participants.

MANFRED LACHS SPACE LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The result of the 23rd Competition in 2014 was as follows:

- Winner: National Law University, Delhi, India
- Runner-up: Florida State University, Tallahassee, United States
- Best Memorials: Florida State University, Tallahassee, United States
- Best Oralist: Mr. Linesh Lalwani, National Law University
- Semi-Finalists: Obafemi Awolowo University, City of Ile-Ife, Nigeria, and the University of Paris Sud, Paris, France

Three Judges of the International Court of Justice in The Hague judged the World Finals. The 2014 competition addressed the “Case concerning satellite electromagnetic interference” (Akeru v. Mheni), and raised issues concerning electromagnetic interference resulting in the loss of an unmanned aerial vehicle, damage to military facility, and death of military personnel. The problem also

addressed actions to counter-act such interference by disabling the satellite, which causes loss of altitude and satellite destruction when it enters the Earth atmosphere”. The Problem was written by Professor Mahulena Hofmann with assistance from James Rendleman.

The World Finals of the 24th Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition will be held during the 2015 Colloquium in Jerusalem. Three Judges of the International Court of Justice will judge the Finals. Many teams have registered for the regional rounds in Europe (17), North America (12), the Asia Pacific (25), and Africa (7). The 2015 competition addresses the “Case Concerning Planetary Defense” (SPIDR v. URA). The Moot Problem presents issues relating to the response to a threat to the Earth posed by the risk of collision with a Near Earth Object (NEO). The problem also addresses the utilization of natural resources of the celestial object, and liability for damages occasioned by the NEO.

The IISL is grateful to all sponsors of the regional rounds and of the world finals, and to its moot court committee. The 25th competition will be celebrated in 2016.

PUBLICATIONS

Eleven International Publishing published the 2013 IISL Proceedings in August 2014. Proceedings can be purchased both as a book and as an e-book via www.elevenpub.com/law/reeksen/proceedings-of-the-international-institute-of-space-law. The content of the Proceedings is also available via an online subscription (fully searchable on keywords, authors name etc.), at www.elevenjournals.com/tijdschrift/iisl/, and volumes of three years and older are available via Heinonline.

Rafael Moro Aguilar and P.J. Blount have been appointed as Co-editors in Chief of the Proceedings of the IISL.

ELECTION, AWARDS

Elections

The results of the 2014 elections were as follows:

- Vice-President, KRS Murthi was re-elected;
- Treasurer: Dennis Burnett was re-elected;
- Executive Secretary: Diane Howard was elected;
- Directors: Stephan Hobe, Mahulena Hofmann and Frans von der Dunk were re-elected.

In October 2014, 3 individual members were elected and 6 prospective members. In March 2015, the Board welcomed 11 individual members and 1 prospective member.

Awards

The 2014 IISL awards were granted to Prof. Paul Larsen, Georgetown University (Lifetime Achievement Award), Prof. Jose Monserrat, Brazil (Distinguished Service Award), and Mr. Dennis Burnett, IISL Treasurer (Award of Appreciation).

The Diederiks-Verschoor award for best paper by a young scholar was won by Joyeeta Chatterjee (India) for her paper titled “Legal Issues Relating To Unauthorised Space Debris Remediation”.

MEMBERSHIP

The IISL warmly welcomes delegates of the Legal Subcommittee to apply for membership in IISL. Nomination forms are available at www.iislweb.org/membership/. Individual membership fees are 60 euros per year. New members are to be nominated by 3 members or one director, and evaluation of applications take place twice per year, deadlines are 1 February and 1 August, respectively.

MORE INFORMATION

Please visit our websites: www.iislweb.org for general information, and www.iislweb.org/lachsmoot for information about the Manfred Lachs space law moot court competition.

Our social media details are as follows:

- IISL on twitter: https://twitter.com/iisl_space
- IISL on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spacelaw>
- Lachs Moot on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spacemoot>
- Lachs Moot on twitter <https://twitter.com/SpaceLawMoot>