

6 April 2018

English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 9–20 April 2018
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
**Information on the activities of international
intergovernmental and non-governmental
organizations relating to space law**

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

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The present document was prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of information received from the International Institute of Space Law.

* [A/AC.105/C.2/L.303](#).



II. Reply received from international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

International Institute of Space Law

[Original: English]
[29 March 2018]

1. International Institute of Space Law

Founded in 1960, the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) is an independent non-governmental organization dedicated to fostering the development of space law. The membership of the Institute is composed of individuals and institutions from almost fifty countries elected on the basis of their contributions to the field of space law or other social sciences related to space activities. In addition, prospective membership is open to students and young professionals with a demonstrated interest in space law.

The purposes and objectives of IISL include the promotion of further development of space law and expansion of the rule of law in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, the holding of meetings, colloquiums and competitions on juridical and social science aspects of space activities, the preparation or commissioning of studies and reports, the publication of books, proceedings, reports and position papers, and the cooperation with appropriate international organizations and national institutions in the field of space law.

IISL holds an annual Colloquium at the International Astronautical Congress (IAC). During this Colloquium, the Nandasiri Jasentuliyana Keynote Lecture takes place, as well as a special session for Young Scholars. IISL strives to address topics that are of interest to all space actors and invites all IAC attendees to attend and participate in its sessions. IISL also co-organizes annual Scientific-Legal Roundtables with the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), and joint sessions with the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).

In addition, the Institute organizes a variety of conferences on space law throughout the year in locations all over the world. It publishes an annual volume of IISL Proceedings with papers and reports of all activities during the year.

IISL is an officially recognized observer at sessions of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its two subcommittees. IISL now has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

The Board of Directors of IISL is currently composed of the following officers — President: Kai-Uwe Schrogl (Germany), Vice-Presidents: Setsuko Aoki (Japan), and K.R. Sridhara Murthi (India); Executive Secretary: Diane Howard (Canada/United States of America), Treasurer: Dennis J. Burnett (United States), and members — PJ Blount (United States), Frans G. von der Dunk (Netherlands), Marco Ferrazzani (Italy), Steven Freeland (Australia), Joanne Irene Gabrynowicz (United States), Stephan Hobe (Germany), Mahulena Hofmann (Czechia), Corinne Jorgenson (United States), Sergio Marchisio (Italy), Martha Mejia-Kaiser (Mexico); Elina Morozova (Russian Federation); Lesley-Jane Smith (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Milton “Skip” Smith (United States), Maureen Williams (United Kingdom/Argentina) and Zhenjun Zhang (China). The Institute has about 450 elected members from 50 countries. Membership categories include individual, prospective and institutional membership. See <http://www.iislweb.org/members.html>.

2. Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition

Since 1992, IISL organizes the annual Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. The competition is based on a hypothetical space law case, written by IISL members, in which around sixty student teams from universities in Africa, the Asia Pacific, Europe and North America, participate. The competition is an important

part of the organization's outreach programme, and its principal mechanism for engaging future generations of space law experts. The regional champions compete in the World Finals, which take place at IAC and are judged each year by judges of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). This unique feature makes the Manfred Lachs Moot Court one of the most prestigious moot court competitions in the world.

Last year's regional finalists argued the moot court problem entitled, the "Case Concerning Lunar Facilities and Withdrawal from the Outer Space Treaty (Perovsk v Titan)," co-authored by Dr. Michael Simpson, Executive Director of the Secure World Foundation, and Mr. Christopher Johnson, Secure World's Space Law Advisor. This year's moot problem presented issues relating to interference with the activities of States in the use of lunar resources, and the resolution of the dispute under the novel principles of *ex aequo et bono*.

From a field of 74 teams competing across five continents within four regional rounds over the past year, we are pleased to announce that the National Law School of India University at Bangalore won the 27th World Final of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition on 28 September, 2017 with the team from the University of Mississippi in the United States as runners up. The Final was judged by Judge Kirill Gevorgian, Ret. Judge Sir Kenneth Keith, and Judge James Crawford from the International Court of Justice at the Federal Court of Australia in Adelaide Australia during IAC 2017.

The 28th edition of the Competition will be held in 2019 in Bremen, Germany. This year we will again be honoured by the participation of ICJ Judges.

3. Conferences

IISL organized the following events in 2017 and to date 2018:

The 2017 IISL/ECSL annual Symposium was organized for delegates on 27 March 2017 at the 56th Session of the Legal Subcommittee and presented "Legal Models for Exploration, Exploitation and Utilization of Space Resources 50 Years After the Adoption of the Outer Space Treaty". On 9 April 2018, on the occasion of the 57th Session of the Legal Subcommittee, the IISL and the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL) will again organize the annual Symposium for delegates and will consider "The 50th Anniversary of the Rescue and Return Agreement: Relevance and Challenges".

The 60th IISL Colloquium was held from 25–29 September 2017, in conjunction with the 66th IAC. The IISL hosted five legal sessions, as well as two joint sessions with IAA and IAF respectively. During these sessions, 74 papers were presented and 16 of those were by Young Scholars. Ambassador Peter Jankowitsch delivered the Nandasiri Jasentuliyana Keynote Lecture on Tuesday 26 September, followed by the 9th Young Scholars Session. Further sessions analysed the following subjects: "NewSpace", New Laws; Refugees and the role of space communications and the status and practice regarding the Charter for Man-made Disasters; Space law developments in the Asia Pacific; Current developments in space law. The 32nd IAA-IISL Scientific/Legal Roundtable addressed the topic "Technology and legal challenges for on-orbit servicing" and the joint session IISL/IAF focused upon "Legal Framework for Collaborative Space Activities."

Topics to be addressed at the 61st IISL Colloquium to be held in conjunction with the 67th IAC in Bremen, Germany include Financing space: procurement, competition and regulatory approach; Space law at UNISPACE+50: consequences and future perspectives; the relationship between space law and cyber law; the 33rd IAA-IISL Scientific/Legal Roundtable discussing Global cooperation in planetary defence; and the Joint IAF/IISL session on collaborative space activities which will this year focus upon micro-launching and very large constellations of micro-satellites.

The 12th Eilene Galloway Symposium on Critical Issues in Space Law was held at the Cosmos Club in Washington D.C. on 13 December 2017 to standing room only with 125 attendees. The topic was "Implementation of the Outer Space Treaty: Issues

for the new U.S. Space Council”. The symposium featured keynote speakers from both Congress and the Executive Branch and five provocative panels including international academics and practitioners.

Cooperation between IISL and IAF continues to strengthen, with joint sessions at IAC, and by way of the participation of IISL members at all IAF conferences (i.e. at the “International Space Forum at Ministerial Level, African Chapter held in Nairobi) and activities throughout the year. IAA, IAF, and the IISL concluded an agreement at IAC Adelaide in September 2017. The agreement focuses upon cooperation between the three organizations for the yearly IAC and can be found at: <http://iislweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/MoU-between-IAA-IAF-IISL.pdf>.

Another example of IISL’s active international cooperation is the first meeting of Members and Followers of IISL, held in December 2017 in Moscow. Thirty-five participants representing all levels of membership as well as representatives of the Russian space industry and experts from related sciences convened the group to provide a forum for exchange of ideas and to welcome new Russian members of IISL. The meeting was opened by the video message of IISL President Kai-Uwe Schrogl.

4. Publications and scholarly work

The IISL announces the formation of its new Working Group on Cyber Law. Information can be found here: <http://iislweb.org/iisl-working-group-on-cyber-law/>.

Eleven International Publishing publishes the annual IISL Proceedings. Proceedings can be purchased via <http://www.elevenpub.com/law/reksen/proceedings-of-the-international-institute-of-space-law>. Members are entitled to a 40 per cent discount and should send an email to sales@budh.nl to order. The content of the Proceedings since 1992 is also available via a subscription (fully searchable on keywords, authors name etc.) at <http://www.elevenjournals.com/tijdschrift/iisl/>. Access to the contributions is on the basis of a username and password. Volumes of three years and older are available via Heinonline.

Eleven Publishing has now placed all IISL proceedings online in a fully searchable online portal: <http://www.elevenpub.com/law/catalogus/iisl-proceedings-online> IISL Online is the new online database for the annual proceedings of the Colloquia on the Law of Outer Space, including the IAA-IISL Scientific-Legal Roundtables, as well as the papers presented at the IISL-ECSL Space Law Symposia held on the occasion of the sessions of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in Vienna, and of the Eilene M. Galloway Symposia on Critical Issues In Space Law. It also contains the reports and best written memorials of the World Finals of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. The online version is updated on an ongoing basis and features full search ability.

The IISL’s new website is now live and can be accessed at <http://iislweb.org/>. In addition, the Secretariat publishes a monthly newsletter providing continuous information about the space law community. Back issues of the newsletter can be accessed via the website.

5. Awards

The Institute gives several awards and certificates annually to those who have shown outstanding achievement in the field of space law. In the course of the 59th IISL Colloquium in Adelaide, Australia, the IISL conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award to Professor Andrei Terekhov (Russian Federation); the Distinguished Service Award to Mr. Niklas Hedman (Sweden) and Dr. Ranjana Kaul (India); the Award of Appreciation to Mr. Michael Davis (Australia); and the Certificate of Gratitude jointly to the European Centre for Space Law and the European Space Agency.

The IISL Young Scholars Fund will award prizes to the participants in the regional rounds of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. Mr. Claudiu Mihai Taitatu (Romania) won our yearly writing competition for a young scholar, the Diederiks-Verschoor Award.

6. Further information

Website: <http://www.iislweb.org>.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spacelaw>.

Twitter: https://twitter.com/iisl_space.
