

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee***Unedited transcript***770th** Meeting

Wednesday, 2 April 2008, 3 p.m.

Vienna

*Chairman: Mr. V. Kopal (Czech Republic)**The meeting was called to order at 3.08 p.m.*

The CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon distinguished delegates. I now declare open the 770th meeting of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

I would first like to inform you of our programme of work for this afternoon. We will continue our consideration of agenda item 6, Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, and agenda item 7, Information on the Activities of International Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations Relating to Space Law. We will also begin our consideration of agenda item 9, Nuclear Power Sources. The Working Group on the Agenda Item 6 will hold its second meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Vassilios Cassapoglou of Greece.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposed schedule?

Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space (agenda item 6)

I see none. So we can start immediately with status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space, agenda item 6.

I have a speaker on my list on this topic and I think it is the distinguished representative of Mexico to whom I give the floor.

Mr. G. GUIZA VARGAS (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes thank you Chairman. My delegation would like to congratulate

you, since it is the first time we have taken the floor, on your taking this post of Chair for this session and we are sure that under your able leadership we will be able to lead this work to a successful conclusion.

Now, as the Subcommittee on Legal Affairs has rightly pointed out, international treaties of the United Nations on space provide a coherent and a useful legal framework for the various activities conducted in this field, specifically the instruments are the cornerstone of the legal context here. For this reason, my country thinks it important to continue encouraging States to adhere to these and to continue developing the current legal framework so that we keep in step with technical developments, thinking about what is done by governments and by legislators as well. Now my country would like to ask other members of the Legal Subcommittee to adopt measures in order to formalize and for the analysis of various States as to cooperation on a general unified convention which would be obligatory when it comes to matters relating to outer space to complement the measures already in force of the United Nations pertaining to space. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished representative of Mexico for your statement on item 6 of our agenda on the status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space. I think that your statement was quite understandable to everybody that it is not necessary to pinpoint anything from this statement.

I thank you very much once again and also for your kind words addressed to the Chair and to the Director of the Office.

In its resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that, beginning with its thirty-ninth session, the Committee would be provided with unedited transcripts in lieu of verbatim records. This record contains the texts of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages as transcribed from taped recordings. The transcripts have not been edited or revised.

Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, within one week of the date of publication, to the Chief, Conference Management Service, Room D0771, United Nations Office at Vienna, P.O. Box 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria. Corrections will be issued in a consolidated corrigendum.



The second speaker on my list of speakers is the distinguished representative of Brazil to whom I give the floor.

Mr. J. MONSERRAT FILHO (Brazil) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Yes thank you Chairman. Brazil in previous sessions has informed the Subcommittee about a very auspicious matter in our eyes that Brazil has incorporated itself as joined the Register of Outer Space Matters. Now we are pleased to inform you that we are concluding the creation of a National Registry system which is to be signed by the new President of the Brazilian Space Agency, Dr. Carlos Gannen(?).

It is useful to know that this system of registration of objects in outer space is regulated by the most recent United Nations General Assembly resolution on the practices of States in registering objects in outer space. That is to say the national system in Brazil on outer space objects is being updated according to the recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly resolution which was adopted last December. Thank you Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Brazil for your valuable information concerning your registration system and improvement of the related document.

Ladies and gentlemen, are there any other speakers wishing to speak on item 6 on our agenda, Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space?

Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law (agenda item 7)

I see none at this moment and, therefore, we will continue in our programme and we will now discuss on agenda item 7, Information on the Activities of International Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations Relating to Space Law.

Do we have anyone here?

Yes, I recognize the distinguished representative of France.

Mr. _____ (?) (France) (*interpretation from French*): Yes thank you Chairman. Chairman, the French delegation would like to support the candidature of the European Telecommunications Organization, EUTELSAT, as

observer to our Committee. It is convinced that the participation of this Organization would make it possible to enrich our work alongside the Organization which are already observers to our Committee and this Organization too could help us to improve space law in the area of telecommunications.

The Executive Secretary of this Organization has great skills in this field and I think his involvement would also be very helpful. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN (*interpretation from French*): Yes thank you distinguished representative of France. Thank you for your contribution on the matter of EUTELSAT and its application to become observer on outer space affairs in addition to what we heard this morning and we listened to the gentleman's contribution with great interest, the report put by the Subcommittee and we were very interested in that indeed. Thank you very much

(*Continued in English*) I do not have any other speaker, ladies and gentlemen, on this particular item, agenda item 7, so may I take it that no other delegation wants to speak on this subject today?

I see none. But having not any delegation to speak, we have some observers and I now give the floor to the distinguished observer, or observeress(?) perhaps, for the International Law Association to Professor Maureen Williams. She is here? Yes, very well. Professor Williams, you have the floor.

Ms. M. WILLIAMS (International Law Association): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. In the first place, let me say that it is a privilege to have Dr. Othman back again as Head of the Office in Vienna and to have you, Mr. Chairman, as Chair of the Legal Space Committee. With the authority of your knowledge and your experience, you are constantly enriching our work.

May I add that a number of distinguished representatives in the room today are members of the International Law Association, many of them, and we are delighted to have them. They enrich our work with their ideas, their opinions and also their dissenting opinions.

For those of you who are not quite aware of the work of the International Law Association and its background, I will very briefly refer to this point before engaging in what has been done in the last 12 months since we reported last to this Legal Subcommittee.

The International Law Association was founded in Brussels in 1873, almost 135 years ago, and now has its Headquarters in London. It is composed of around 50 national branches in different regions around the world, working on the topical agendas as set for each year.

The Space Law Committee was created shortly after the launching of SPUTNIK-1 in the Association's Fifty-Eighth Conference in New York in 1958 and it has worked without interruption ever since.

The Head of the Executive Council of the International Law Association is Lord Slin(?) of Hadley and the Director of Studies is Professor Christine Chinkin(?). The World President at the moment is Dr. Milus Barositski(?) from Canada and he is stepping down next August when the next Conference will take place in Brazil, in Rio, in August of this year.

The Space Law Committee presently, well is chaired by the present speaker, and the General Rapporteur is Professor Stephan Hobey(?) from the German branch.

Among the most recent contributions of the ILA to the development of the law of outer space, I shall mention the review of the outer space treaties in view of commercial space activities, with the idea of determining whether these treaties were still consistent with the present international scenario. So we revised the Outer Space Treaty, the Liability Convention, the Registration Convention, and the Moon Treaty. We had a Special Rapporteur on these different treaties and we came to the conclusion that even though some minor adjustments were necessary, this should be done, not by means of introducing amendments to the treaties, but by perhaps a United Nations General Assembly resolution or some kind of separate protocol.

About the Moon Agreement, we thought that perhaps it needed more than just minor amendments but the general idea is to keep the reading of the treaties intact.

Another contribution, a recent contribution from the International Law Association was the instrument on the protection of the environment from damage arising from space debris. This international instrument, which we hesitated to call convention because we thought it could perhaps be either guidelines or draft convention and we left that for some further discussion or conference, was adopted in 1994 and ever since has been kept under revision by the Space Law Committee. It is quite consistent with the

Guidelines which were adopted and now are a United Nations General Assembly resolution on Space Debris Mitigation and they are quite consistent with the European Code of Conduct on Space Debris Mitigation.

Another contribution was the draft Convention on the Dispute Settlement Relating to Space Activities.

The last Conference of the ILA took place in Toronto in 2006. I shall not pause on this because we reported already last year to the Legal Subcommittee but I will mention our work for the Rio Conference in August 2008. We shall be reporting on remote sensing, national space legislation and registration and then also space debris and dispute settlement.

On national space legislation, we shall be updating the Toronto Report. There are few new events and few advances on this topic, for example, there is some more national space legislation concerning remote sensing and we have new members on our Committee who are involved in a project concerning the use of satellite data in international litigation and all the problems underlined as questions. I shall not repeat this. We referred to this last year in our presentation. Concerning national space legislation there is, of course, progress. We have, for example, national space legislation concerning space debris and there are notes by the Secretariat with replies to a questionnaire by Germany, Japan, Poland, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom concerning the domestic legislation applicable to space debris.

We are also, apart from the normal working session of the Committee in Rio, another day, a different day we have an open forum to discuss weaponization, or shall we call it space security, preserving space for future generations. And the other topic of this open forum will be space traffic management.

I wanted to say that you are all more than welcome to take part in this Conference. I can give you the details afterwards. It is Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, between the 17th and 21st August 2008 and the venue is the Intercontinental Hotel.

The Space Law Committee of the ILA is working in close cooperation with the International Law Commission. The Conference on Disarmament, we were invited yesterday, in fact, to speak on security in space and space debris, in Geneva. We also work with other private organizations, like the International Institute of Space Law.

The Space Law Committee has between, in the time elapsed between last year and now, been invited in that capacity to the Conference held here in Vienna in October last year concerning civil society and outer space. The Space Law Committee was invited in December to Vienna to take part in a Meeting of Experts which are now preparing the syllabus on space law to teach in the four Regional Centres affiliated with the United Nations, that is, in Morocco, in Mexico and in Brazil.

You may remember Mr. Chairman last year, when we mentioned our parallel working with the International Law Commission, in the report of the forty-sixth session of the Legal Subcommittee, we were asked to keep you informed on the progress of our work in that respect. This appears in the report of the Legal Subcommittee 2007, Page 11, paragraph 55.

Although I touch upon this briefly in the written report which appears in the documents already distributed, once we sent in this report, there have been further developments. I shall summarize this point.

Apart from the Space Law Committee, the International Law Association has a Study Group on the Responsibility of International Organizations and this is a problem which is rather familiar to us space lawyers, especially underline the Liability Convention and Article 22. The Study Group on the Responsibility of International Organizations of the ILA is chaired by Mr. Eduardo Valencia Ospina(?) of Colombia, who, at the same time, is a member of the International Law Commission of the United Nations.

So we are working in parallel with them and the problem during this last year surrounded two questions addressed by the International Law Commission and on which we were asked to cooperate. I shall quote the two questions. Question one, addressed by the International Law Commission, is the following: "Do members of an international organization that are not responsible for an international wrongful act of that organization have an obligation to provide compensation to the injured party should the organization not be in a position to do so?"

Question one. This was rather a thorny question. It did not go very smoothly but I shall now quote question two. Question two had to do with serious breaches of obligations on the part of an international organization, breaches of norms, of parentary(?) norms of international law. The Space Law Committee answered these questions, of course, from the standpoint of space law and this was included

and sent to the Rapporteur of the International Law Commission and included in the report of the International Law Commission in its fifty-ninth session.

The second question, and I am starting by the second question which is less controversial, it went rather smoothly, the one referring to breaches of norms of parentary(?) international law and the input from the ILA enabled the Special Rapporteur, Professor Giya(?) from Italy, to draft the following article. There are two articles on this point, draft Articles 43 and 44 of the ILC Commission, originated in this Study Group on Responsibility of International Organizations. It says, "this Chapter applies to the international responsibility which is entailed by a serious breach by an international organization of an obligation arising under parentary(?) international law." It was discussed in the Drafting Committee, then went to the Plenary and it was adopted.

Now I turn to question one and on this question there was no draft proposal from the Rapporteur. I will quickly read it again. "Do members of an international organization that are not responsible for an international wrongful act of that organization have an obligation to provide compensation to the injured party should the organization not be in a position to do so?" No draft proposal from the Special Rapporteur, Professor Giya(?), but then at the Plenary session, Professor Olev(?) Belay(?), which most of you must know, came up with a proposal. There was discussion in the Plenary on this proposal. It was the target of some criticism and then the Chair of the ILA Study Group, and at the same time, member of the ILC, made a third proposal on the drafting of this Article. I am not going to read it. I can then provide the material to do so.

So we had three proposals. The Drafting Committee of the ILC recommended the Commission and the Commission agreed to include all three proposals in the Annual Report to the General Assembly, Sixty-Second Session, Supplement Number 10, A/62/10, Page 198. Both the text adopted by the Commission and the proposal from the ILA were commented upon in the Sixth Committee during the meeting of the last General Assembly. And we are now expecting an analytical report to be prepared, or being prepared, by the United Nations Secretariat on this question.

So this, Mr. Chairman, is the state-of-the-art on our relationship with the International Law Commission. We shall, of course, keep you posted on any advances on this topic and we shall have also the

Rio Conference in August, a meeting of the Study Group of the ILA on the Responsibility of International Organizations, which is quite apart from the Working Session of the Space Law Committee and the open fora to discuss weaponization and space traffic management.

So this is what I had to say this year, Mr. Chairman, on this topic. No more details come to mind. May I repeat our invitation to all of you here. You are more than welcome, as I said before, to take part in the ILA Conference, Seventy-Third Conference in Rio, in the middle of August, and I thank you very much for giving us the floor to report on our work during the last 12 months. Many thanks.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Madam Chairman of the International Law Association's Space Law Committee for your thorough report on the activities of the International Law Association, one of the oldest international non-governmental organizations dealing with the codification of international law, and about your, for your remarks on the present activities of this Committee. And I can say that particularly interesting was also your commentary on the work on the draft codification on international responsibilities of international organizations, which is being discussed and prepared in the International Law Commission of the United Nations. And a parallel discussion on these matters in a Study Group on the Responsibilities of International Organizations which was established within the Space Law Committee of the International Law Association and which is chaired by Dr. Eduardo Valencia Ospina(?), a member of the International Law Commission of the United Nations.

Thank you very much also for your kind words and, of course, that were addressed to the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs and to the Chair and, of course, we have also heard carefully your information about the forthcoming Conference of ILA, to be held in August this year in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

And we have now the distinguished representative of Brazil to whom I give the floor.

Mr. _____(?) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Thank you Chairman. As a member of the Brazilian chapter of the International Law Association and a member of the Space Law Committee of ILA, may I make a short statement?

I wanted to emphasize what was said by Professor Maureen Williams, she is the Chairperson of

that Committees as to the high and outstanding quality of the programme of the Conference. And I also wanted to invite all to attend the Rio de Janeiro event, since this is going to be a major conference. But, above all, I am in a position to say that Rio de Janeiro is still a very attractive city. Thank you. A comment about the carnival was unfortunately inaudible.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, thank you very much distinguished representative of Brazil for your support of the kind invitation of Professor Maureen Williams, for all delegates to come and attend the forthcoming Conference of the International Law Association and Brazil and to enjoy the beauties of the city where this Conference should be held. Thank you very much.

We still have on our list of observers the distinguished observer for the European Space Agency, ESA, to whom I give the floor.

Ms. U. BOHLMANN (European Space Agency): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. Let me first join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your election to chair the Legal Subcommittee and in congratulating Dr. Othman on her appointment as Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs. ESA is convinced that under your able and experienced guidance, the Legal Subcommittee, assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, will continue to achieve excellent results.

With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would now like to invite my colleague to deliver a report on the activities of the European Centre for Space Law, ECSL, before continuing the more general report on the activities of the European Space Agency relating to space law in 2007.

Ms. M. VINCENT (European Space Agency): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, before speaking about the ECSL's activities, I would like to remind you some background information.

The European Centre for Space Law was established in 1989 at the initiative and under the auspices of the European Space Agency. The Charter defines its missions, structure and objectives. The last version was adapted by the General Assembly in June 2007.

After the conclusion of the General Assembly, the ECSL Board unanimously conferred the title of Honorary President of ECSL to Gabriel Lafferanderie(?), as founder of ECSL, Chairman of it since long years, and for the outstanding achievements

realized under his guidance. After that, the Board elected unanimously Professor Sergio Marchisio as ECSL Chairman, and Professor Armel Kerrest as Vice-Chairman for the term 2007-2009.

The main objective of ECSL is to build up and spread in Europe and elsewhere an understanding of the legal framework relating to space activities. To facilitate the spread of information and organization of activities, ECSL has encouraged the establishment of national points of contact. Points of contacts have been set up in Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in Sweden and in Switzerland. The new point of contact was set up in the Czech Republic.

In order to spread an understanding of the legal framework relevant to space activities, every year ECSL organizes several activities. One of the main activities organized by ECSL is the Summer Course on Space Law and Policy. The Sixteenth ECSL Summer Course on Space Law and Space Policy took place at ESA Effect(?) facilities, Nordwick(?), The Netherlands, during the first two weeks of September 2007.. There were 70 participants from 18 different countries, like France, Turkey, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Canada, Austria, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Spain, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Bulgaria, Portugal, Romania and Belgium. Forty-two students and four tutors attended these two week-intense event. Acclaimed teachers, highly-qualified professionals from international and national space organizations and experts from the space industry gave lectures on space law and space policy issues, such as the International Space Station, space debris, Galileo or public and private partnership in space activities.

The students were required to solve a practical case entitled “The Use of Space and Space Applications to Support Entertainment: Simulation of an International Call for Tenders” in front of a panel of space experts. This exercise gave the students the opportunity to test their communication and analytical skills and to put into practice the knowledge acquired at university and during the different modules. The proceedings of the course were published a month ago.

The Seventeenth ECSL Summer Course on Space Law and Policy will be held in September 2008, probably in Genova (Genoa?), Italy.

Another activity organized by ECSL is the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. Preliminaries of the Sixteenth Manfred Lachs Space

Law Moot Court Competition 2007 were held at regional level in Europe, North America and in the Asia-Pacific Region. The European rounds of the Competition took place at the University of Paris XI(?) _____(?) in France, on 3 May. There were four teams registered from Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and Poland. The University of Leiden, The Netherlands, won the 2007 European rounds and did its best to represent Europe at the World Finals of the Competition which took place during the Fifty-Eighth International Astronautical Congress in Hyderabad, India, last September.

The University of Leiden, The Netherlands, met the University of Queensland, Australia, in the semi-final. The University of Queensland went on to the Finals and competed against George Washington University, United States of America. George Washington University won the Finals.

The European regional rounds of the Seventeenth Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition 2008 will be held in Riga, Latvia, from 16 to 18 April. The semi-finals and Finals will take place during the 2008 IISL Colloquium in Glasgow, Scotland.

ECSL also organized every year a Practitioner Forum. The 2007 ECSL Practitioners Forum was held on 27 April at ESA Headquarters, Paris, France. Some 40 participants from various institutional, commercial and academic professions attended this Forum which dealt with recent developments within the European space industry, legal aspects. The 2008 Practitioners Forum will be held in December 2008, date, place and theme to be decided.

Concerning ECSL's colloquium and conferences, ECSL, together with IISL, organized a one-day Symposium during the forty-sixth session of the COPUOS Legal Subcommittee that took place in March 2007. The Symposium included reports of national and international space law institutions on the theme “Capacity-Building in Space Law”. The first session was on teaching and education, whereas the second session dealt with training and capacity building.

During the forty-seventh session of the Legal Subcommittee of the COPUOS, ECSL, together with IISL, held the two-day Symposium on the theme “Legal Implications of Space Applications for Global Climate Change”.

Another activity of ECSL is the publication of its newsletters. The next ECSL newsletter, number 35-

36, that will be published in April, contains articles notably on the ECSL activities related to the period 2007-2008. The United Nations General Assembly resolution number 62/101 "Recommendations on Enhancing the Practice of States and International Intergovernmental Organizations in Registering Space Objects" of December 2007, the resolution on the European space policy of May 2007, or the Space Clauses of the Treaty of Lisbon, signed at Lisbon in December 2007. For any further information, you can go on the ECSL website.

Thank you for your attention Mr. Chairman and, with your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to let my colleague, Ulrike Bohlmann, make a report on the ESA activities.

Ms. U. BOHLMANN (European Space Agency): Thank you very much. I am grateful for this opportunity to submit to the Legal Subcommittee a summary report on the general activities of the European Space Agency relating to space law in 2007.

Of course, ESA continued to be represented at the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations COPUOS and at its working groups.

Representatives of ESA also continued to publish legal studies on various aspects of space law. Special mention should be made of the participation of some representatives of ESA's Legal Department in the undertaking of the Cologne Commentary on Space Law, which is a joint project of the Institute of Air and Space Law of the University of Cologne and the German Aerospace Centre, DLR.

Furthermore, representatives of ESA's Legal Department continue to lecture intensively, *inter alia*, at the regular ISU and the ISU Summer Session Programme, at the Masters Degree Programme of the University Paris XI _____ (?), at the Conference "Humans in Outer Space", organized jointly by the European Science Foundation, ESA and the European Space Policy Institute SP, and at the Civil Society in Outer Space Forum 2007, organized by the Vienna(?)_____ Congo(?) Office, and at the Workshop of the Commercial Spatial de la Société Française de _____ Arian Spatial.

Lectures and presentations focused in particular on the legal implications of the following topics: human space flight and space exploration programmes, satellite navigation, launching policies, topology(?) and practice of international space agreements, international and European space institutions with a special emphasis on the institutional

aspects of the European space activities, commercial activities in space, the legal aspects of space debris, and national legislation governing space activities.

Especially regarding the last mentioned topic, the national legislation governing space activities whose importance is also recognized by the fact that it now features among the agenda items treated by the Legal Subcommittee, ESA has on various occasions explicitly welcomed and supported legislative efforts made by its member States and will continue to do so in the future.

Thank you very much for your attention.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished observer for the European Space Agency, ESA, for your report on the activities of the European Space Agency relating to space law in 2007 and also for the report delivered by your colleague on the activities of the European Centre for Space Law.

We have heard also her announcement about the new legals of the European Centre of Space Law after the stepping down of the up-to-date Chairman of ECSL, Dr. Gabriel Lafferanderie(?). Dr. Gabriel Lafferanderie used to play a substantive role also here in our Legal Subcommittee as observer for the European Space Agency and as Chairman of the ECSL and his role was recognized already by the Subcommittee last year when it was unfortunately taken into account that he would be no longer able to attend these meetings of our Subcommittee. At the same time, I would like to congratulate him, through you, to his election as Honorary Chairman of the ECSL and also I would like to extend, on behalf of the Subcommittee, our congratulations to the election of Professor Sergio Marchisio as the new Chairman of ECSL. He is a delegate at the same time of his country, Italy. And to Professor Armel Kerrest, who was elected as Vice-Chairman of ECSL and he is here now also among us as representative of France.

So this is what I wanted to say in relation to the report of the European Space Agency, including the report of the ECSL.

I have here the application of the distinguished delegate of Greece.

Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece) (*interpretation from French*): Thank you Mr. Chairman. As you have already said what I intended to point out, let me, in any event, convey my views and say how satisfied I am to see that our friend and eminent colleague we miss so much, Gabriel

Lafferanderie(?), as a token of Pan-European and even worldwide recognition of her(?) contribution to the development of space law is such that personally, and as a Greek delegation, we are very pleased to see that tribute is being paid to her contribution to our discipline. The European Space Law Centre appointed her(?) Honorary President for life. And I would like to say that Gabriel Lafferanderie is a person we truly miss because whenever a statement was made, it was done in a very humanistic manner. All these activities were outlined in outer space.

And on this occasion, Mr. Chairman, I would like, through you Sir, to congratulate and wish every success to our major friend and colleague, Sergio Marchisio, on his appointment to preside over the European Centre. The Centre is not restricted to intra-European activities. It is now a very important scientific organization and, above all, it has privileged ties to young people, not just young legal minds, but also economists and political scientists. This is why I wanted to take the floor Sir. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you distinguished representative of Greece for your intervention. I received a request of Professor Maureen Williams, Chairman of the ILA Space Law Committee for receiving another opportunity to speak, to complete her statement that was made a few minutes ago. So you have once again the floor Professor Williams.

Ms. M. WILLIAMS (International Law Association): That is very kind of you Mr. Chairman. It will not take a minute to say the following.

A number of members of the ILA Space Law Committee, together with distinguished experts in the field, coming both from industrialized and developing countries, are presently contributing to a book entitled "Space Law", in Spanish "Derecho Espacial"(?), to be published by one of the major legal firms in Argentina. The raison d'être of the volume, which is part of a collection of 25 volumes on different aspects of international comparative and domestic commercial law and related topics, is the shortage of comprehensive and updated books of a kind in Spanish-speaking countries. It shall include a profound analysis of the provisions embodied in the five United Nations space treaties, the three sets of principles of the United Nations, as well as contributions from the doctrine on the major topics involved. The book which we are editing is expected to go to the printers shortly. We are presently in the stage of translating some of the papers but it will still be time for any of you who wish to send your thoughts, not later than the end of this month. We extend this invitation, you can submit your

thoughts in any language. I mean it does not have to be Spanish, we can translate it, but it would be very important to have this cross-section.

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Professor Williams on your additional information. And I believe that in this way we have exhausted the list of both, it means of delegations and observers on agenda item 7, Information on the Activities of International Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations Relating to Space Law.

Nuclear power sources (agenda item 9)

I will, therefore, not continue any longer on this particular item and will proceed to the following item, it means Nuclear Power Sources, agenda item 9.

Is there any speaker wishing to contribute on this particular point of our agenda? I do not have any delegation inscribed in the list of speakers on this item. Is there any delegation wishing to do it now?

I see none.

So I intended to shortly adjourn this meeting of the Subcommittee so that the Working Group on Agenda Item 6 can convene its second session under the chairmanship of Dr. Cassapoglou.

Before doing so, I would like to remind delegates of our schedule of work for tomorrow morning. We will meet promptly at 10.00 a.m. At that time we will continue our consideration of agenda item 6, Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, and agenda item 7, Information on the Activities of International Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations Relating to Space Law. We will also continue our consideration of agenda item 9, Nuclear Power Sources.

As was agreed by the Subcommittee earlier, we will begin our consideration of agenda item 8(a), the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, under the guidance of Professor José Monserrat Filho, so that the Working Group on this agenda item could hold its first meeting.

So we believe this will be a good programme for tomorrow morning.

Of course, if the Working Group on Item (?) ends its deliberations, it will be up to the Working Group on Item 6 to continue its work.

Finally, I would like to remind once again delegates that at 7.00 p.m. there will be a Reception by the Czech Republic at the Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations and it will be at Penzingerstrasse 11-13, here in Vienna. The closest Metro station Heizing.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposed schedule for tomorrow?

I see none.

The meeting is adjourned until 10.00 a.m. tomorrow.

The meeting closed at 4.04 p.m.