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English only

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

Legal Subcommittee

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

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

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Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

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

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



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

International Institute of Space Law

[Original: English]

[1 April 2019]

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 the 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, colloquia 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.

The 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. The 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. The IISL also co-organizes annual Scientific-Legal Roundtables with the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), and joint sessions with the 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.

The IISL is an officially recognized observer at sessions of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and its Scientific and Technical and Legal Subcommittees and has consultative status with ECOSOC.

The Board of Directors of the 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), Treasurer: Dennis J. Burnett (United States), and members – PJ Blount (United States of America), 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), Armel Kerrest (France); Sergio Marchisio (Italy), Martha Mejia-Kaiser (Mexico); Elina Morozova (Russia); 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, the 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 the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) and are judged each year by judges of the International Court of Justice. This unique feature makes the Manfred Lachs Moot Court one of the most prestigious moot court competitions in the world.

This year's regional finalists argued the moot court problem entitled, the "Case Concerning Conflicting Activities in Outer Space, Planetary protection, and Outer Space Security (The Democratic Republic of Neapilia v. The Republic of Kalvion)," co-authored by Dr. Marco Ferrazzanni, General Counsel of European Space Agency and Professor George Kyriakopoulos, of the School of Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. This year's moot problem concerns activities in outer space carried out in parallel by two States, planetary protection and outer space security. From a field of teams competing across five continents within four regional rounds over the past year, the Louisiana State University (North America), Belarusian State University (Belarus), University of Pretoria, South Africa (Africa), and the Symbiosis Law School, at Pune, India (Asia Pacific) were victorious in their respective regional competitions and advanced to compete in the semi-final rounds on Tuesday, October 2, 2018.

On October 4, 2018, the World Final round of the competition was held during the IAC at the Hanseatic Federal Court of Bremen, Germany in the famous Schwurgerichtsaal chamber, before current and former judges from the International Court of Justice in The Hague, H.E. Judge Hanqin Xue, (China) Vice President, International Court of Justice; H.E. Judge Peter Tomka, (Slovakia) International Court of Justice; and H.E. Judge Kirill Gevorgian, (Russian Federation) International Court of Justice.

Pleading on behalf of the Applicant was the team from the Symbiosis Law School in Pune, India, represented by Ms. Shraddha Dubey, Ms. Someny Singhal and Mr. Malay Srivastava (support on brief) and faculty representatives. Pleading on behalf of the Respondent was the team from the University of Pretoria South Africa, represented by Mr. Simon Botha and Mr. Simon Motshweni. Ruling from the bench, the panel pronounced the Respondent as the prevailing party and declared the University of Pretoria, South Africa, as the winner. The panel then announced its decision to award Best Oralists honours to Mr. Simon Botha, from the University of Pretoria.

3. Conferences

IISL organized the following events in 2018 and to date 2019:

The 2018 IISL/ECSL annual Symposium was organized for delegates on Monday 9 April 2018 at the 57th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and presented "The 50th Anniversary of the Rescue and Return Agreement: Relevance and Challenges". The 2019 IISL/ECSL Symposium will take place on Monday 1 April 2019 at the 58th Session of the Legal Subcommittee and will address the topic: "The Moon Agreement Revisited: The Road Ahead."

The 61st IISL Colloquium was held from 1-5 October 2018 in Bremen, Germany in conjunction with the 67th IAC. The IISL hosted five legal sessions, as well as two joint sessions with IAA and IAF respectively. The Colloquia topics included: 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 focusing upon micro-launching and very large constellations of micro-satellites.

Topics to be addressed at the 62nd IISL Colloquium to be held in conjunction with the 68th IAC in Washington DC include dispute settlement, national space legislation, space traffic management, space mining, and remediation of space debris. The Nandasiri Jasentuliyana Keynote Lecture on Tuesday 22 October 2019, will be given by Professor Dr. Setsuko Aoki.

The 13th Eilene Galloway Symposium on Critical Issues in Space Law was held at the Cosmos Club in Washington DC on 5 December 2018, once more to standing room only with over 100 attendees. The symposium featured keynote speakers and provocative panels, including international academics and practitioners, highlighting the challenges of the development of both domestic and international space law and the interaction of space law with physics, regulation, commercial development, robotic and human exploration, and political philosophy.

Cooperation between the IISL and the IAF continues to strengthen, with joint sessions at IAC, and by way of the participation of IISL members at all IAF conferences and activities throughout the year. The International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), and the IISL concluded a second agreement in October 2018, committing to collaboration between the three organizations on the important issues surrounding space traffic management. The three organizations have nominated representatives and work has commenced with the intention of presenting ideas to the combined memberships in the near future.

Building upon the excellent participation at Space Symposium in Colorado Springs in April 2018, the IISL is putting on a second workshop this year. The IISL continued to expand activities in Moscow in 2018 and 2019. In furtherance of its ongoing efforts to develop initiatives around the world, the IISL is co-organizing with the CISL/CSA a Symposium on International Governance of Emerging Space Issues under the Rule of Law. The Symposium will be held in Changsha, China, on 24 - 25 April 2019.

4. Publications and scholarly work

The IISL announces the formation of its new Working Group on Cyber Law, which has successfully completed its paper on the topic. 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, Austria, 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 searchability.

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 61st IISL Colloquium in Bremen, Germany, the IISL conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. George S. Robinson; the Distinguished Service Award to Mr. Jason Steptoe; and the Certificate of Gratitude to the China Institute of Space Law.

The IISL Young Scholars Fund will award prizes to the participants in the regional rounds of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. Our yearly writing competition for a young scholar, the Diederiks-Verschoor Award, was awarded to Mr. Andrea Capurso (Italy) for his paper titled The Non-Appropriation Principle: A Roman Interpretation in Bremen at the IAC.

6. Further information

Website: <http://www.iislweb.org> ^{1}_{SEP}

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spacelaw> ^{1}_{SEP}

Twitter: https://twitter.com/iisl_space ^{1}_{SEP}
