Summary of the Sixths Regular Meeting of the IAA/IISL Scientific-Legal Liaison Committee

1. Date and Place
Prague, Thursday, 30 September 2010, 13:00 – 13:50

2. Participation
Schrogl (Chair), Mendell (Co-Chair), Rohner-Willsch (Secretary), Sato, Molette, Thiele, Sandau, Smith, Lala, (later also Matas).

3. Roundtables 2010 and 2011
Beginning: 10:15, ending 12:45.
From 5 confirmed speakers, 4 did participate and presented their paper.

The 25th IAA/IISL Scientific Legal Roundtable 2010 with the topic “The New Age of Small Satellite Missions” had a good resonance. 50 persons in the beginning, around 60 in the middle and circa 45 in the end listened to the presentation and discussions. The members of the Liaison Committee especially appreciated the presence of the IISL President Tanja Masson-Zwaan and the Secretary General of IAA Jean Michel Contant, who opened the roundtable anniversary with encouraging welcome addresses. Masson-Zwaan referred to the 1st roundtable (33 years ago) that also took place in Prague and started the fruitful interdisciplinary discussions about licence systems/liability systems in the context of scientific development. Contant accentuated the role of the experienced scientists and lawyers to stimulate the young ones to continue the exchange of scientific-legal discussions. The mixture of presentations was successful but too long in their duration. The discussion was excellent. The moderation by Jane and Rainer was very lively and structured.

For the Roundtable 2011 the topic “Space debris remediation” is foreseen. Kai-Uwe and Wendell will chair the session. Lead speaker will be Heiner Klinkrad. Klinkrad should propose other speakers. 5 speakers would be adequate. Kai-Uwe will prepare a draft programme.

Nicola reported about a booklet on 25 years of Roundtables, which will be expected to be ready for publication at the 2011 spring meeting of IAF/IAA.

4. Topic for the Roundtable in 2012
Nicola brings in as topic “Optical Communication”: technical development and regulatory aspects as frequencies, protection from interception during data transmission, economic aspects. Pierre Molette and Masahiko Sato agree to be the chairs for 2012.
Contributions can come from Matas: What is the role of ITU? It is covering only a spectrum from x to 1Terrahertz (?). It will be increased to 4 or 5 Th. Is ITU allowed to regulate? (Discussions due to that will take place in January 2012). Attila Matas is therefore invited as speaker, because there are new developments in ITU until 2012. What are the consequences of the meeting in Jan 2012? Matas adds that the community is not aware of active and passive sensors regulations. Passive sensors are not protected, if they are not notified. Matas also offers to be present for questions/table after the session 2012 (table in the back) with free software, information, training, consult.
Further remarks: Possible other topics: Future public private cooperation to regulate space activities outside earth (travel to moon intersat like). Wendell reports from a conference, where Ken Hodgkins presented different topics that could be interesting in future legal discussions. He will get the list and distribute it.

5. Next Meeting
During IAC in Cape Town, right after the Roundtable (foreseen for Thursday morning).