

FRESHWATER AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: THE MULTIPLE CHALLENGES

Thursday, 7 July 2011

Location: Room S160 – Law Faculty, University of Geneva – Uni MAIL – 40, Boulevard du Pont d’Arve, 1205 Geneva – (Stop: Uni MAIL - Tram 15)

14:30 WELCOME/COFFEE

15:00 – 18:00 TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES: CURRENT ISSUES

Chair: *Laurence Boisson de Chazournes*, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva; Director, Platform for International Water Law, and *Stephen McCaffrey*, Professor, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific; Former Special Rapporteur on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses, International Law Commission

Actuality in groundwater law:

- **The Genevois Aquifer** – *Gabriel de los Cobos*, Department of Security, Police and Environment, Canton of Geneva
- **The Guaraní Aquifer** – *Lilian del Castillo-Laborde*, Professor, School of Law, University of Buenos Aires

Resource management in water scarce regions:

- **Transboundary water resources in key hot spots** – *Johan Gély*, Program Manager, Water Initiatives Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

16:15 – 16:30 BREAK

- **The Senegal Basin** – *Makane Moïse Mbengue*, Lecturer, Platform for International Water Law, School of Law, University of Geneva
- **The Lake Chad Basin** – *Amidou Garane*, Lecturer, University of Ouagadougou

Water treaties and their contribution to regional stability:

- **India and Pakistan's truculent cooperation: Is 50 years enough?**– *Undala Alam*, Lecturer, School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophy, Queen's University, Belfast
- **Secession and succession in transboundary river basins** – *Christina Leb* and *Mara Tignino*, Research Fellows, Platform for International Water Law, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva
- **Lessons Learned with International Waters Governance in the Columbia River Basin** – *Richard Paisley*, Director, Global Transboundary International Waters Governance Initiative, University of British Columbia

Friday, 8 July 2011

Location: ETC/NISC Classroom –WMO Building, 2nd floor – 7bis, Avenue de la Paix, 1202 Geneva

9:00 – 9:30 WELCOME ADDRESS

Christian Bovet, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva

François Münger, Head, Water Initiatives Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva; Director, Platform for International Water Law

9:30 – 12:30 WATER AS A VITAL RESOURCE FOR STATES AND INDIVIDUALS

Chair: *Edith Brown Weiss*, Professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Former President, World Bank Inspection Panel

International Waters and Water Security: Positions, Interests and Experience – *David Grey*, Visiting Professor, School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford; Former Water Advisor, World Bank

Do people have rights in boundaries' delimitations? – *Marcelo Kohen*, Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

10:50 – 11:10 COFFEE BREAK

Water rights of indigenous peoples and local communities – *Dinah Shelton*, Professor, George Washington University; President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Commentator: *Yves Lador*, Earth Justice, Permanent Representative, United Nations, Geneva

DISCUSSION

12:30 – 14:00 LUNCH

14:00 – 16:00 THE PROMOTION OF WATER COOPERATION THROUGH UNIVERSAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL REGIMES

Chair: *Alain Pellet*, Professor, University of Paris Ouest, Nanterre-La Défense; Member and Former Chairman, International Law Commission

Is the codification of universal norms a successful means to promote cooperation and equity? –

Stephen McCaffrey, Professor, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific; Former Special Rapporteur on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses, International Law Commission

Regional frameworks and their value-added – *Attila Tanzi*, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Bologna; Chairman, Legal Board, UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Sharing benefits at the basin level – *Jakob Granit*, Project Director, Stockholm International Water Institute

Commentators: *Laura Rio*, Senior Programme Manager, Environment and Security Initiative, UNEP Regional Office for Europe; *Iulia Trombitcaia*, Secretary to the Legal Board, UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

DISCUSSION

16:00 – 16:20 COFFEE BREAK

16:20 – 18:30 WATER AS A NATURAL RESOURCE

Chair: *Donald McRae*, Professor, School of Law, University of Ottawa; Member, International Law Commission

The hydrology of climate change – *Paolo Burlando*, Professor, Institute of Environmental Engineering, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zürich

Exchange of information, notification and consultation: do they contribute to the environmental protection of transboundary waters? – *Owen McIntyre*, Senior Lecturer, School of Law, National University of Ireland

WTO and the trade of natural resources – *Valerie Hughes*, Director, Legal Affairs Division, WTO

Commentator: *Ellen Hey*, Professor and Head of Department of Public International Law, School of Law, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

DISCUSSION

Saturday, 9 July 2011

Location: Auditorium Jacques Freymond – 132, Rue de Lausanne, 1211 Geneva

9:30 – 12:00 PREVENTION AND SETTLEMENT OF WATER RELATED DISPUTES

Chair: *Georges Abi-Saab*, Professor emeritus, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies; Former Chairman of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization

New Strategies to Build Confidence between Riparian Countries – *Ilmas Futehally*, Executive Director and Vice President, Strategic Foresight Group, India

Do judicial decisions settle disputes? – *Awn Shawkat Al-Khasawaneh*, Judge, International Court of Justice

Mediation as a means of dispute prevention and resolution – *Salman Salman*, Former Lead Counsel and Water Law Adviser, Legal Vice Presidency, World Bank

10:45 – 11:00 COFFEE BREAK

The World Bank Inspection Panel and Its Practice on Water Projects – *Edith Brown Weiss*, Professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Former President, World Bank Inspection Panel

Commentator: *Maurice Kamto*, Professor, University of Yaoundé; Minister of Justice, Cameroon; President of the International Law Commission

DISCUSSION

12:00 – 12:30 CONCLUSIONS

Lucius Caflisch, Professor emeritus, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies; Member, International Law Commission; Former Judge, European Court of Human Rights

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