



CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW
WORKSHOP ON SUBMARINE CABLES & LAW OF THE SEA
Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore
14-15 December 2009

Organised by **CIL** Centre for International Law

Co-Sponsors



Center for Oceans Law and Policy
University of Virginia School of Law



China Institute for Marine Affairs
State Oceanic Administration



International Cable
Protection Committee



Universiteit Utrecht

Netherlands Institute for the
Law of the Sea

Submarine Cables form the basis of the global telecommunications network, the Internet and E-commerce and are therefore critical to the world's economy.

Natural disasters, fishing and shipping activities pose a constant threat to submarine cables as illustrated by the recent earthquake in Taiwan which severely damaged submarine cables and disrupted Internet services all across Asia. However, despite their crucial role to both the economic and social development of states, some governments lack awareness on the various legal, policy and practical issues relating to the laying, protection and repair of submarine cables.

The Workshop seeks to facilitate discussion on the legal and practical issues relating to the laying, protection and repair of submarine cables in South East Asia between industry representatives, academic experts and government officials in the region.

CIL will be inviting policy and legal experts from the governments of ASEAN and the region to share views and ideas with the aim of identifying problems, measures and possible solutions that can be taken nationally and regionally by both industry and governments in order to facilitate the effective laying, repair and protection of submarine cables.

Panelists include :

- Douglas BURNETT** *Legal Advisor, International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC)*
- Lionel CARTER** *Marine Environmental Advisor, International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC)*
- GAO Zhiguo** *Executive Director, CIMA & Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea*
- Myron NORDQUIST** *Associate Director, Center for Oceans Law and Policy (COLP)*
- Alfred SOONS** *Director, Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (NILOS)*
- Robert BECKMAN** *Director, Centre for International Law (CIL)*

DAY ONE**WORKSHOP ON SUBMARINE CABLES & LAW OF THE SEA, 14-15 DECEMBER 2009**

8:30	Registration
9:00	Welcome Address Ambassador Tommy Koh, Chairman, Governing Board, CIL Workshop Overview Robert Beckman, Director, CIL
9:20	Session 1 The Setting – Introductory session on the global submarine cable network and the need to protect critical infrastructure as well as an overview on the international legal framework governing submarine cables.
10:30	<i>Tea Break</i>
11:00	Session 2 Surveying Cable Routes and Laying Cables – what best practices should be followed by industry & governments to minimize risk to the marine environment and competing activities?
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00	Session 3 Repair of broken or damaged submarine cables – what best practices should be adopted to ensure that damaged or broken cables can be repaired as quickly as possible without compromising the legitimate interests of governments and other stakeholders?
15:30	<i>Tea Break</i>
16:00	Session 4 Problems caused by overlapping maritime boundaries – what special problems arise from the laying and repair of cables in areas of overlapping boundary claims and what best practices can be adopted by industry and governments to overcome these problems?
17:30	End of Day One
19:00	<i>Boat Tour followed by Dinner</i>

DAY TWO

9:00	Session 5 Regulation of competing uses to protect submarine cables – what best practices and technology should be adopted to prevent and minimize damage to submarine cables from activities such as fishing, anchoring and resource exploitation?
10:30	<i>Tea Break</i>
11:00	Session 6 Criminal liability for the intentional destruction or damage of submarine cables or submarine cable infrastructure, theft of submarine cables and the intentional interference with cable ships engaged in cable laying or repair activities – what measures are necessary to ensure that the intentional destruction or damage of submarine cables or submarine cable infrastructure, theft of submarine cables and the intentional interference with cable ships engaged in cable laying or repair activities are criminal offences under national laws and regulations and international conventions?
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00	Session 7 Damage to submarine cables from indiscriminate anchoring in Southeast Asia – What measures can be taken to prevent damage to cables, to facilitate quick repair of damaged cables and to facilitate recovery for damaged cables?
16:00	Session 8 Closing Session - Reports by Chairmen and other Supporting Organizations for Sessions 2-7 and summary of recommendations by Chairmen.

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CIL

Please fax completed registration form to (65) 6469 2312.
Written confirmation will be issued by fax or email upon receipt of registration.
For enquiries, please email Geraldine Ng at cilnwfg@nus.edu.sg

Registration Fee SGD 500 nett per person

The registration fee includes conference materials, refreshments and lunch during the conference.

REGISTRANT DETAILS

Professor / Dr / Mr / Mrs / Ms _____ Surname _____
Organization _____
Designation _____
Address _____
_____ Country _____
Tel _____ Mobile _____ Fax _____
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PAYMENT

CHEQUE / BANK DRAFT Crossed cheque / Bank Draft for **SGD500** in Singapore Dollars made payable to **NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**. Please mail your payment together with this registration form to Ms Geraldine Ng, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore, Bukit Timah Road, 469 Bukit Timah Road, Block B, #02-01, Singapore 259756.

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