

International Law and Transboundary Freshwaters Symposium and Workshop 2010

Global, national and regional strategies for promoting security and sustainability within a rapidly changing world – Water for All

June 21-24, 2010

Dundee UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science
University of Dundee, Scotland UK

Joint Organiser: Regional Centre on Urban Water Management-Tehran
(under the auspices of UNESCO)



“...International law provides the only available framework for order and stability.”

Sir Arthur Watts KCMG QC, 2000

International law related to transboundary freshwater serves three basic functions: (1) it defines and identifies the legal entitlements and rights and obligations tied to water use, providing the prescriptive parameters for its development; (2) it provides a framework for ensuring the continuous integrity of the regime, i.e. through monitoring, regulation, compliance, stakeholder participation, dispute avoidance and settlement; and (3) it allows for rational modifications of the existing regime, in order to be able to adapt to the constantly changing needs and circumstances.

The purpose of the symposium will be to explore these three functions of international law within the context of existing and potential challenges faced by transboundary basins (rivers, lakes and aquifers) throughout the world. The symposium will benefit from the collective knowledge and expertise of world-renowned speaker, all of whom have a ‘real world’ focus.

Key Questions:

- What is international water law and how does it promote regional peace and security?
- How do international legal frameworks support national decision making related to transboundary water resources planning and management?
- Who is entitled to use transboundary freshwater resources – why and how?
- How does international law reconcile competing claims over transboundary freshwaters?
- What diplomatic strategies and tactics can nation-states employ to secure the best legal outcomes possible in light of their transboundary water interests?

Who should attend?

The symposium will benefit anyone concerned with the world’s international watercourses, especially water resources experts, lawyers and non-lawyers, practitioners - including civil servants, policy makers, regulators and water suppliers - as well as academics, who wish to gain fresh insights into how international law can contribute to addressing existing and future challenges over the world’s transboundary freshwater resources.

Symposium Chairs



Professor Patricia Wouters, Professor of International Water Law and Director of the Dundee UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science, has published, lectured and worked around the world on international water law and developed a globally renowned research team that also specializes in comparative national water law and the regulation of water services.



Dr Homayoun Motiee is an Associate Professor in the Power and Water University, I.R. Iran and the Director of the UNESCO Regional Centre on Urban Water Management (RCUWM)-Tehran. Dr Motiee received his Ph.D. in civil engineering, hydraulic structures from Insa University, France (1996) and holds a post doctorate in water resources engineering from Guelph University, Canada (2005).



Dr Alistair Rieu-Clarke, LLB, LLM, PhD is a Senior Lecturer at the Dundee UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science. An expert on measuring the effectiveness of transboundary water governance regimes, his research focused on governance and water resources management and involves case studies in Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, India, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and Vietnam.

Symposium Presenters



Dr. Salman M. A. Salman is former Lead Counsel with the Legal Vice Presidency of the World Bank, and former adviser on water law and the safeguard policies. Dr. Salman obtained his LL.B. from the University of Khartoum, Sudan (1972); and holds an LL.M. (1974), and a J.S.D. (1977) both from Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut, USA.



Professor Dan Tarlock joined Chicago-Kent University in 1981 and is an internationally recognized expert on environmental law and the law of land and water use. He received his bachelors and law degrees from Stanford University, is a member of the California bar, and is one of three US special legal advisers to the NAFTA Commission on Environmental Cooperation.



Roberto Lenton is former Chair of GWP's Technical Committee, which is hosted by the Earth Institute at Columbia University, and concurrently Chair of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and Senior Advisor for International Development at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI).



Greg Shapland has been a member of Research Analysts in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office since 1979. He is currently Deputy Head of Research Analysts and Research Counsellor for the Middle East and North Africa. He has particular responsibility for research and analysis on Iraq and regional issues (including Arab human development, security, disarmament and water).



Dr Sergei Vinogradov's main field of expertise includes international environmental law, international law of natural resources, law of the sea, as well as environmental and natural resource law of Russia and the CIS. He is a member of the Water Resources Committee of the International Law Association and of the global Commission on Environmental Law.



Flavia Rocha Loures, JD., works in the field of environmental law and policy, first as an environmental attorney and professor in Brazil, and more recently as Senior Programme officer for WWF - the global conservation organisation - in the USA. Her focus is on the codification and development of international water law and on the implementation of water-related international conventions.

DAY 1 • Monday 21st June 2010

9:00	Coffee and Registration
9:30	Welcome • <i>Principal Professor Pete Downes, Professor Patricia Wouters and Dr Alistair Rieu-Clarke, University of Dundee • Dr Homayoun Motiee, Director of RCUWM</i>
10:00 - 10:45	Coping with uncertainty and promoting security – the value and function of international law related to freshwater resources • <i>Professor Patricia Wouters</i>
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Keynote lecture <i>continued</i>
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	Transboundary water issues and Integrated Water Resources Management • <i>Roberto Lenton</i>
14:30 - 15:30	Contemporary legal challenges at the basin level – examples from the Nile and the Aral Sea • <i>Musa Abseno & Dinara Ziganshina</i>
15:30 - 16:00	Break
16:00 - 17:00	What's in it for me? – group exercise This exercise will provide an opportunity for participants to exchange ideas on what they wish to get out of the symposium Facilitators • <i>Dr Alistair Rieu-Clarke & Bjørn-Oliver Magsig</i>
17:00 - 17:30	Wrap-up day one • <i>Professor Patricia Wouters and Dr Alistair Rieu-Clarke</i>
17:30 - 18:30	Reception

DAY 2 • Tuesday 22nd June 2010

9:00 - 9:15	Introduction to day two
9:15 - 10:30	How does international law reconcile competing claims over transboundary water resources? <i>Dr Sergei Vinogradov</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Keynote lecture <i>continued</i> Wrap-up day two • <i>Dr Alistair Rieu-Clarke</i>
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 19:00	Excursion • Trip to Highland town of Pitlochry

DAY 3 • Wednesday 23rd June 2010

9:00 - 9:15	Introduction to day three
9:15 - 10:30	Implementing the principle of equitable and reasonable utilisation – what role for procedural rules? • <i>Salman Salman</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 11:45	Keynote lecture <i>continued</i>
11:45 - 12:30	Global strategies for promoting security and sustainability – the 1997 UN Watercourses Convention and Draft Articles on Transboundary Aquifers • <i>Flavia Loures</i>
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 15:00	Group exercise Facilitators • <i>Dinara Ziganshina & Bjørn-Oliver Magsig</i>
15:00 - 15:30	Break
15:30 - 17:00	Group exercise continued
17:00 - 17:15	Wrap-up day three • <i>Professor Patricia Wouters and Dr Alistair Rieu-Clarke</i>
18:00 - 20:00	Reception & Symposium Gala Dinner

DAY 4 • Thursday 24th June 2010

- 9:00 - 9:15** Introduction to day four
- 9:15 - 10:30** Managing conflict over transboundary freshwaters and coping with change – the role of institutions and dispute settlement mechanisms? • *Professor Dan Tarlock*
- 10:30 - 11:00** Break
- 11:00 - 12:30** Keynote lecture continued
- 12:30 - 13:30** Lunch
- Visit by *Sir Alan Langlands*, former Principal of the University of Dundee, to take place during the afternoon session.
- 13:30 - 14:00** Progression routes for continuing professional development: the Postgraduate Certificate and the Masters in Water Law, LLM, (optional session)
- 14:00 - 14:40** Question & Answer session, providing an opportunity for the participants to pose further questions to the speakers, as a result of issues that may have arisen during the symposium
- 14:40 - 15:30** International diplomacy: a view from the inside • *Greg Shapland*
- 15:30 - 16:40** Workshop wrap up and closing remarks

The Dundee UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science reserve the right to change the advertised presenters and agenda without prior notice to registered delegates.

SIR ALAN LANGLANDS WATER LEADERS PRIZE

Sir Alan Langlands is a former Principal of the University of Dundee and we are proud to announce that he will be awarding a Water Leaders Prize to an outstanding alumnus of the Dundee UNESCO Centre, as part of the Symposium.

Conference Registration Information

Registration fee

Places are limited and early booking is highly recommended.

The attendance fee for the symposium will be £1600 per delegate.

A discounted early bird rate is available at £1440 if booking is secured by 1st May 2010.

Registered student or not-for-profit Non-Governmental Organisations special rate: £800.

Further information and to reserve your place, contact:

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or to reserve your place online, please complete the online registration form at:

<https://www.buyat.dundee.ac.uk/events/eventdetails.asp?compid=1&eventid=60>

Conference venue

The Symposium week will take place on the University of Dundee's main campus in the West End of the city and conveniently located with respect to the city's airport, train station and hotels.

For accommodation bookings please visit: <https://www.conferencebookings.co.uk/delegate/DNDIWL2010>

Travel

Dundee has its own airport and train station and can also be reached easily from Edinburgh airport.

Transport will be provided for the Pitlochry excursion. Local travel can be made by foot, bus or taxi.

Full details of the venues and maps will be sent to all registered delegates.

Cancellation

Cancellations must be received in writing no later than 1st May 2010 in order to be eligible for partial refund.

Substitutions for registered participants may be made at any time, but we would appreciate prior notification.

