

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS  
TORINO, ITALY, OCTOBER 6-10, 1997  
17th IAA/IISL SCIENTIFIC-LEGAL ROUNDTABLE  
ON  
SETI AND SOCIETY

COORDINATOR: Ernst Fasan (Austria)

CHAIRMEN:

John Billingham (USA)

Vladimir Kopal (Czech Republic)

RAPPORTEUR: Donald Tarter (USA)

This half day Session on Oct. 8., 1997, morning, was devoted to the interactions between the scientific and societal aspects of the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI), and the Speakers and their topics are given below.

The first three speakers addressed the basic scientific and technical issues of ongoing and future SETI endeavours. They included possible scenarios of detection of a signal from an extraterrestrial civilisation, and of subsequent attempts to establish communication. They also addressed the societal aspects of detecting extraterrestrial intelligence as seen from their own viewpoints, and the involvement of the public and the media.

The other three speakers concentrated on the implications of detection of our own society.. They covered general sociological aspects, policy issues for post detection activities, and for transmissions from Earth to other civilisations, political and institutional questions, and the future of all aspects of SETI in International Space Law.

More than an hour of extensive discussion, as specified in the Repporteurs Report, followed.

Speaker	Topic
Roger Malina (USA)	Search strategies; SETI activities and society
Guillermo Lemarchand (Argentina)	SETI technology; detection scenarios
Seth Shostak (USA)	Interactions with the public and the media
Stephen Doyle (USA)	Cultural and institutional aspects
Michael Michaud (Switzerland)	Policy issues on communication with ETI
Francis Lyall (UK)	SETI and International Space Law