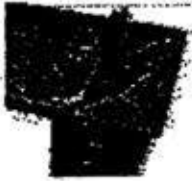



Appendix 30: email from Monahan to Shoukri and Cohen re "a plan to try to rework agenda," April 21, 2009



Law Dean/osgoode  
04/21/2009 05:59 PM

To Mamdouh Shoukri  
cc "Mr. Marshall Cohen" <mcohen@casselsbrock.com>  
bcc  
Subject Re: Durban 11 

I met on Monday with Stan and David Dewitt and we are working on a plan to try to rework the agenda and mitigate the damage. David and I are meeting with the organizers on Thursday morning to explore the possibilities and try to find a path forward. Rather than detail our thoughts now (some of which may not be possible or attainable), I want to meet first with the organizers and see what might have a chance of working. I will get back with an update once we have had that meeting.

Patrick

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Patrick J. Monahan, Dean  
Osgoode Hall Law School  
York University, 4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3  
Telephone: (416) 736-5199 / Fax: (416) 736-5251  
Email: lawdean@osgoode.yorku.ca  
Mamdouh Shoukri <mamshou@yorku.ca>



Mamdouh Shoukri  
04/21/2009 03:29 PM

To "Mr. Marshall Cohen" <mcohen@casselsbrock.com>, "Prof. Patrick J. Monahan" <lawdean@osgoode.yorku.ca>  
cc  
Subject Re: Durban 11

Mickey

First, no apologies needed. I also share your concern.

My expectation, based on early assurances, is that the participants are reasonable people but may have strong views about the issue. In that sense, I do not expect them to cross the line. It is always possible that some may. It is also possible that some from the other side may draw a line that is easily crossed. Either way, it is not hard to imagine a scenario in which some people walk out in protest.

Based on the above, I like your idea of an ambudsman-like in attendance. He may not be acting like a sensor but at least can interfere if things get out of hand or can be a reliable source of info on what really happened. I wonder if Roy will be willing to do that. Can he or John McCamus be asked to chair one of the sessions where troubles may occur?

I appreciate Patrick's input on this.

Mamdouh

From: "Cohen, Marshall" [mcohen@casselsbrock.com]  
Sent: 04/21/2009 02:54 PM AST

To: Mamdouh Shoukri; <lawdean@osgoode.yorku.ca>  
Subject: Durban 11

Hi

The story in to-day's papers about "Durban 11", which I assume you have both seen, is what worries me about the upcoming Mapping Conference. Assuming we get enough pro Israeli speakers to "balance" the program, we may still not be out of the danger zone.

What do we do if one of the speakers launches into what amounts to or comes close to a racist diatribe?

Yes we can argue that at a university academic conference, free speech must be tolerated but that argument will get drowned out in the media circus that will erupt. Some attendees will walk out, but some will stay and applaud, as was the case in Geneva and we, as sponsors and [physical] hosts will be caught in the middle of an argument that we can't win.

So, the issue becomes –is there anything we can do to ensure that no speaker wanders off the range--i.e. they stick to their abstracts. Can the conference organisers enforce some discipline on the speakers -and are they strong enough to do so? Can we disinvite known hate mongers, if we have any on the program? Is this censorship? Do we need an ombudsman in attendance at all times to preserve civility [ Roy McMurtry?]

I don't have an answer but someone needs to think about this and be prepared.

Again, apologies for continuing to pester you guys about this, but yesterday's events will just heighten everyones interest in and fears about the conference

**Marshall Cohen**

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP  
2100 Scotia Plaza  
40 King Street West  
Toronto Canada M5H 3C2

tel 416 860 2915  
fax 416 644 9347  
mcohen@casselsbrock.com

[www.casselsbrock.com](http://www.casselsbrock.com)



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