



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**STATEMENT BY MRS. NATALIE Y. MORRIS-SHARMA, COUNSELLOR,
PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
ON AGENDA ITEM 81, ON THE REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW ON THE WORK OF ITS FORTY-
EIGHTH SESSION, SIXTH COMMITTEE, 19 OCTOBER 2015**

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1. Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to thank the Chairman of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-eighth session, sixth committee, 19 October 2015.

as part of our national laws.

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7. From these perspectives, Singapore supports the repository for the Transparency
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recommendation to the General Assembly that it requests the Secretariat of the
Commission to establish and operate the repository, in accordance with article 8 of the
Transparency Rules, as a pilot project until the end of 2016, on the basis of voluntary
contributions. We support this recommendation, and are committed to ensuring that the
appropriate request is made.

III. The conduct of UNCITRAL meetings

8. Mr. Chairman, UNCITRAL has a valued mission to progressively harmonise and
unify trade law. This year, my delegation worked with others in organising a panel
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has a role in promoting economic and social development. It is timely that we recall this
in the wake of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

9. Noting the very current and critical rel HYDQFH RI 81 & , 75 \$/ V ZRUN
wonder that numerous demands are made on the resources of UNCITRAL and the
Secretariat. Last year, my delegation expressed the view that optimising the use of
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this, but challenges remain.

10. At the last Commission meeting, the Commission was unable to complete the
consideration of the report of the discussions on the work of Working Group III (Online
Dispute Resolution) when the participants in that discussion were present. This was
highly unsatisfactory, and my delegation hopes that we will not see a repeat of this.

extended indefinitely, as this is done at the expense of other areas where the law needs harmonisation.

Concluding remarks

11. Mr Chairman, Singapore is a committed supporter of UNCITRAL. Experts from Singapore currently chair UNCITRAL Working Group II (Arbitration and Conciliation) and Working Group III (Online Dispute Resolution). We have been, and continue to be, ready to support the Secretariat in promoting UNCITRAL texts and other States in their implementation of these texts.

12. For the continued success of UNCITRAL, we agree with the Commission that there is a need to further develop coordination mechanisms among the various rule-formulating bodies. We also agree that there is a need for increased participation at UNCITRAL by all countries ~~8 1 & , 7 5 \$ / ¶ V P D Q G D M H F I D Q R I Q O W~~ with input from different legal backgrounds, and this renders the involvement of a broad constituency of States essential. We urge all States to support the important work of UNCITRAL by sending experts to participate in the meetings of the Working Groups.

13. By the same token, participating States should be ready to have genuine conversations at UNCITRAL meetings, in order to promote the harmonisation of rules that the international community as a whole can accept. In this way, the utility and ~~J H Q H U D O O \ L P S U H V V L Y H W D N H X S U D W H R I 8 1 & , 7 5 \$ / ¶~~ improved. We urge States not to use the UNCITRAL process to insist that their domestic preferences be the norm for the whole of the international community, but to engage constructively towards consensus where appropriate.

14. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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