General Assembly 67th Session

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Sixth Committee

Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fifth session

On behalf of the Nordic Countries

Anniken Enersen Counsellor/ Legal Affairs

Mr Chair/Madam Chair

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway.

First, let me extend our appreciation to the Chairman of the Commission's forty-fifth session, Mr. Hrvoje Sikric (Croatia), for his presentation to our Committee.

The Nordic countries welcome the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) on the work of its forty-fifth session. As always, we highly appreciate the coordination efforts undertaken by the Commission in order to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organisations active in the field of international trade law.

The Nordic countries have participated actively in the working groups established by the Commission. The working groups perform the substantive preparatory work on topics within the Commission's work programme. It is our experience that the activities of these working groups are characterized by open and inspiring discussions among its members, and believe that these characteristics contribute to the excellent results of the working groups.

During this year's session, the Commission finalised and adopted the Guide to Enactment of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement. The Nordic countries appreciate the hard work of Working Group I (Procurement), that has led to the successful adoption of the Guide.

The Nordic countries participate in the discussions in Working Group II concerning transparency in treaty-based investor-State arbitration. In general, we believe that for disputes involving a state, principles of transparency and public access are of great importance.

We appreciate the work so far of Working Group VI (Security Interests) on the issue registration of security rights in movable assets.

We also look forward to the further work within Working Group V (Insolvency) on the responsibility and liability of directors and officers of an enterprise in insolvency and preinsolvency cases. The topic is of current importance, and a greater degree of harmonization of national approaches would be beneficial in delivering certainty and predictability.

The Nordic countries are following Working Group III's (Online Dispute Resolution) work with great interest. We find the work of the said group to have great potential given that one can agree on a solution that will gain broad, global support. We are confident that the Members of the Working Group will do their utmost to find a workable way forward.

During its forty-fifth session the Commission confirmed the mandate of the Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce). We are encouraged by the on-going work to streamline and focus the work of the said working group and await the outcome of the working group's efforts.

We extend our thanks to the Commission and its secretariat for their hard effort to further elaborate international trade law. The Nordic countries are committed to continue our participation in this work.