



PHILIPPINES

Please check against delivery

STATEMENT

by

MR. EDUARDO JOSE A. DE VEGA

Deputy Permanent Representative
Philippine Mission to the United Nations

On

Agenda Item 77

**Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
on the work of its 45th Session**

before the

**Sixth Committee
67th Session of the
United Nations General Assembly**

United Nations, New York
15 October 2012

STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Item 77 – Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its 45th session

Monday, 15 October 2012

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We wish to thank UNCITRAL for its report on its 45th session.

Whether as a member of UNCITRAL – as we currently are – or not, the Philippines is committed to supporting its work.

Since its creation in 1966, UNCITRAL continues to facilitate world trade, by progressively harmonizing and unifying the law of international trade. Its conventions, model laws and other instruments, reduce if not remove obstacles to the flow of trade.

We have six points to make.

First, harmonized, modern, and fair rules on commercial transactions increase trade and economic opportunities, thereby raising the living standards of people across the world. UNCITRAL's work benefits Member States, including developing countries like the Philippines.

Second, the finalization and adoption at the 45th session of Working Group I's work on Guide to Enactment of the Model Law on Public Procurement, will contribute significantly to the Philippines' program on public-private partnership projects, or PPP. This is another possible topic for the work for Working Group I. PPP is one of the strategies identified by the government to achieve inclusive growth through infrastructure and development projects. It encourages the collaboration of the public and private sector to achieve the shared goals of growth and development. This happens by putting on board the advantages of private sector initiatives, as well as the efficient and accelerated provision of public services, in order to ensure that public needs are being addressed effectively.

Third, UNCITRAL has contributed to promoting the rule of law at both the national and international levels. A strong rule of law relies on the effective and equitable delivery of public services in a fair, non-discriminatory and accountable manner. To further promote the rule of law in the Philippines, and sustain public confidence and trust, the government sees to it that our legal framework includes

mechanisms that ensure transparency, the accountability of public officials, the wide participation of the private sector, and fair access to information.

Fourth, with respect to UNCITRAL's future work in the area of microfinance, the Philippines supports the proposal on electronic payments. Citing examples presented at the UNCITRAL colloquium in January 2011, the Philippines is considered a pioneer in mobile payments and electronic money.

Fifth, the opening last January of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific in Incheon, Republic of Korea, is another important step for UNCITRAL in reaching out and providing technical assistance to developing countries and in promoting international trade and development. Again, we thank the Republic of Korea for this contribution.

Finally, UNCITRAL at its 45th session also took note of expressions of intent from Member States to establish similar UNCITRAL centers. For the Philippines, the establishment of a regional center in Singapore will further enhance international trade and development for Southeast Asian countries. We welcome, thank and support Singapore's initiative.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.