UNGA SIXTH COMMITTEE – REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW ON THE WORK OF ITS 45TH SESSION (NEW YORK, 25 JUNE – 6 JULY 2012)

STATEMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

DELIVERED BY JESSE CLARKE FIRST SECRETARY (LEGAL), UK MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should like to express its gratitude and appreciation to Hrvoje Sikiric who chaired the Commission proceedings. We would also like to thank the vice-chairs: Rosario Elena A.Laborte-Cuevas, Jorge Roberto Maradiaga M, Tore Wiwen-Nilsson and the Rapporteur Agasha Mugasha. We would also like to thank the Secretariat for its usual excellent work in preparing for and facilitating the session.

The first week of the 45th Session was taken up by the finalisation and adoption of a Guide to Enactment of the Uncitral Model Law on Procurement. We believe this is a most important contribution to the assistance available on procurement. The Guide to Enactment will greatly enhance the use of the Model Law.

We are pleased to participate in the 56th and 57th Sessions of Working Group II on the preparation of a legal standard on transparency in treaty based investor-state arbitration. At the 57th Session of the Working Group good progress was made under the very capable chairmanship of Mr Salim Moollan. The Secretariat produced first rate papers for the Working Group sessions and this has also facilitated progress of the work. This is an important project and we hope that this progress will continue and that the work can be concluded in a timely manner. We look forward to continuing to participate in the development of these draft rules.

The UK continues to be actively involved in the work on Insolvency Law and is pleased to have participated in the 41st session of Working Group V in New York in May. At this last session work continued to develop additional text and amendments to the Guide to Enactment of the Model Law on the interpretation and application of the concept of centre of main interests. Good progress was made on this fundamental concept and once completed, the revised text will provide invaluable guidance on the application of the Model Law in cross-border insolvency proceedings. Work also continued developing text for possible inclusion in the Legislative Guide on Insolvency Law, on Director's obligations in the period approaching insolvency. This project continues to challenge the Working Group, but through the excellent working papers produced by the UNCITRAL Secretariat and the very capable direction of the Chairman, Mr. Wisit Wisitsora-At, and Rapporteur, Ms Diana Lucia Talero Castro, good progress was made on developing a text which the Working Group can agree to. Work will continue in Vienna in November 2012 and the UK looks forward to continued good progress on both topics.

The UK remains committed to the work of UNCITRAL.