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STATEMENT

Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations Agenda Item - 77: Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-seventh session 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly 14 October 2024 UN Headquarters New York

Mr. Chair,

We thank the Commission for its report on the 57th Session (A/79/17) and express appreciation for the efforts of UNCITRAL Secretary Anna Joubin-Bret and Ambassador Vilawan Mangklatanakul of Thailand, the Chair of the 57^{th} Session of UNCITRAL – who both honor us with their presence today – in moving forward the work of the Commission. The Philippines is pleased to have taken part in the recent UNCITRAL session as an observer state.

We thank the Commission for the significant progress in its work in facilitating fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks during the relevant period covered by the report, including the finalization and adoption of texts under its working groups such as the:

- the UNCITRAL UNIDROIT Model Law on Warehouse Receipts
- the UNCITRAL Model Clauses on Specialized Express Dispute Resolution (SPEDR); and
- the UNCITRAL Model Law on Automated Contracting

We welcome the adoption in principle of the Statute of the Advisory Centre on International Investment Dispute Resolution. We thank the Chairperson and the Rapporteur, Mr. Shane Spelliscy (Canada) and Natalie Yu-Lin Morris-Sharma (Singapore), respectively, for their valuable roles in steering the Working Group III, in their personal capacities, to reach a conclusion on this work.

The Philippines supports the establishment of the Advisory Centre as its creation is of fundamental importance to the interests of developing states and we commit to be a part of the State-led intergovernmental process towards its operationalization.

We note the satisfactory progress of the various Working Groups and support the future work and areas of engagements which are in line with UNCITRAL's mandate towards promoting the progressive unification and harmonization of international trade law. We welcome the mandate of the Commission for Working Group II to work on the recognition of enforcement of electronic arbitral awards, and subsequently, electronic notices.

We are particularly pleased with the collaboration between UNCITRAL and UNIDROIT, including the work on the development and adoption of the UNCITRAL-UNIDROIT model law on warehouse receipts as well as other avenues of collaboration.

We express our appreciation to UNCITRAL's Regional Center for Asia and the Pacific and to the Republic of Korea for its support for the Center. We commend the Center for its important work in carrying out its events and activities in accordance with its mandate to provide technical assistance to States in the region. The Philippines is one of the States in the region that participated and benefited from the Center's activities.

We welcome the outcome of the informal consultations held in Vienna on developing guidelines on streamlining and simplifying the text of future draft omnibus resolutions to be adopted by the General Assembly. We will continue to participate in this process.

The Philippines is honored to highlight our candidature for membership in UNCITRAL for the coming term and we will continue to engage role in the work of UNCITRAL and its working groups. We affirm our commitment to the progressive development of international trade law and hope to contribute to the work of UNCITRAL, foster inclusion and collaboration among Member States, while articulating the distinct views of developing countries. **END**