

PREFACE

On behalf of the Stichting 'The Hague Joint Conferences on International Law' I express my gratitude for the publication of the proceedings of the Hague Joint Conference 2003. It was a milestone to have this conference again in The Hague, the first of its kind that was organized under the auspices of the 'Foundation The Hague Joint Conferences on International Law' which was established in 1999 to secure the continuation of the Joint Conferences in the future.

The central theme 'From government to governance' gave an excellent opportunity to elaborate the role of State- and non-State actors in a wide area of international law. International law in an era of international terrorism is more important than it ever has been. State- and non-State actors need each other more than ever to succeed in a world-wide peaceful coexistence.

We appreciated it very much that Piet Hein Donner, Minister of Justice of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, opened the conference, and Peter H. Kooijmans, member of the International Court of Justice, made an address related to the role of non-State actors and international dispute settlement. Furthermore, Thomas Buergenthal, also a member of the International Court of Justice, gave an inspiring dinner speech, while the thought-provoking farewell address was delivered by President Shi of the International Court of Justice.

We enjoyed the arrival and participation of so many persons during the conference at the Kurhaus Hotel in Scheveningen on 3-5 July 2003, debating about the various themes, such as international organisations – governmental and non-governmental – and good governance, multinational business and corporate governance, public and private international law and responding to international terrorism.

I express my deep gratitude to Anne-Marie Slaughter, president of the American Society of International Law and to Nico Schrijver, President of the Netherlands Society of International Law. Thanks also go to the staff of the American Society of International Law and to the T.M.C. Asser Instituut, to Ige Dekker and Dorinda Dallmeyer, the program-directors.

We are grateful to our sponsors and contributors who helped to ensure a secure financial base for the Sixth Hague Joint Conference, in particular the Municipality of The Hague giving hospitality to many international and European institutions and without the generous support of which the Conference would not have been realised.

We look forward to the Seventh Hague Joint Conference which has been scheduled for 30 June until 2 July 2005.

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