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Introduction

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SYMPOSIUM
UNITED STATES
COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE
11TH JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

*The Honorable Gregory W. Carman**

On December 7, 1999, I was privileged to preside over the Eleventh Judicial Conference of the United States Court of International Trade. The Planning Committee, whose members were invited by the Judges of the Court to serve and assist in this undertaking, identified the theme and organized and implemented the Conference. The overwhelming success of the Conference was due, in large part, to the efforts of the Committee's Chair, James R. Cannon, Jr., and the Committee's members: Andrea C. Casson, Stephen M. DeLuca, Joseph W. Dorn, Henry R. Felix, Alice A. Kipel, Edmund Maciorowski, Maytee Pereira, John A. Ragosta, Patrick C. Reed, Gilbert Lee Sandler, Elizabeth C. Seastrum, Sidney N. Weiss, and Barbara Silver Williams. It is fitting, therefore, to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Planning Committee, the invited speakers and panelists, and all of the Court's staff for their hard work in ensuring the smooth running of a highly informative and rewarding Judicial Conference. It is appropriate also to give special recognition to Judge Judith M. Barzilay who served as the Court's liaison to the Planning Committee.

The title of the Conference was "The Court at the Millennium." Its purpose was to explore how the Court should adapt to challenges in the new millennium without losing that which is good in the Court's current practice, law, and procedure.

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Among other topics, the conferees discussed the future of the Court's jurisdiction, the impact of the Supreme Court's decision in *United States v. Hagggar Apparel Co.*, 526 U.S. 380 (1999), and the impact international dispute settlement panels established under the North American Free Trade Agreement and the World Trade Organization have on trade litigation. Additionally, the conferees addressed how the Court should incorporate within its procedures rapid changes in information technology. Attendees were shown demonstrations of video conferences and electronic docketing and filing. These innovations are just some of the ways the Judges and staff of the Court of International Trade intend to use, to the fullest extent possible, available technology to ensure the speedy, just, and efficient resolution of disputes. Finally, the Judges and members of the bar were given an opportunity to share their views on how litigation before the Court may be improved to ensure a just and proper outcome.

The Court's Judicial Conference traditionally has served as a forum through which the bench and bar are able to meet, mingle, and get to know one another, as well as educate each other on the law and where it is going. It is particularly fortunate when, in addition to providing an educational and social outlet for attendees, the Judicial Conference produces high quality articles that can serve to educate a far broader audience than the attendees alone. This volume of the *Brooklyn Journal of International Law* serves such a purpose. The volume includes contributions by such distinguished individuals as Thomas Blanford, F. Amanda DeBusk, Stephen M. DeLuca, Myles S. Getlan, Professor Claire R. Kelly, Dean A. Pinkert, Patrick C. Reed, Elizabeth C. Seastrum, and Joseph Tasker, Jr. These articles address a selection of the broad range of topics covered at the Conference.

The Court of International Trade faces an exciting and demanding future. Challenges introduced by the establishment of binational and transnational dispute settlement panels and questions of the future scope of the Court's jurisdiction deserve thoughtful consideration over the next few years. Advances in technology provide different, but equally important, challenges. The Court must strive to take advantage of the benefits of new technology, yet not abandon its commitment to professionalism and quality. It is my sincere hope that the articles in this volume will contribute to the ongoing dialogue that is necessary

among scholars, judges, and practitioners if the United States Court of International Trade is to heed the admonition of Abraham Lincoln in his first message to Congress. That message is carved in the marble wall on the east side of the entrance to the Court's Ceremonial Courtroom, and reads:

It is as much the duty of Government to render prompt justice against itself, in favor of citizens, as it is to administer the same, between private individuals.

Finally, I would like to thank the editors and staff of the *Brooklyn Journal of International Law* for providing a forum in which to discuss these important issues.

