



RESOLUTION 4/2014

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

The 76th Conference of the International Law Association, held in Washington D.C., the United States of America, April 7-11, 2014:

HAVING RECEIVED the concluding 11th Report of its International Trade Law Committee on its work undertaken from 1993 to 2014;

RECALLING the ILA 'Declaration on the Rule of Law in International Trade' adopted as part of ILA Resolution No 2/2000 at the 69th ILA Conference in July 2000;

WELCOMING the WTO Ministerial Declaration adopted at Bali in December 2013 and the increasing contribution of the WTO trading, legal and dispute settlement system among now 160 WTO Members to promoting human welfare and the international rule of law;

WELCOMING the increasing cooperation of the WTO with UN Specialised Agencies and non-governmental organisations in order to promote the overall coherence between economic and non-economic rules and policies;

ENCOURAGING WTO Members to promote the overall legal coherence of the national, regional and WTO rules and institutions constituting the multilateral trading system in view of the increasing number of regional trade agreements;

RECALLING that the WTO Agreement and its dispute settlement rules aim at providing security and predictability to the multilateral trading system through guarantees of 'access to justice' both at the international level as well as within domestic legal systems, and require each WTO Member to 'ensure the conformity of its laws, regulations and administrative procedures' with WTO law (Article XVI:4 WTO Agreement);

RECOMMENDS that domestic and international dispute settlement bodies in trade law duly respect the 'consistent interpretation' and 'judicial comity' requirements of national and international legal systems in order to promote the transnational rule of law for the benefit of citizens;

RECOMMENDS to the Executive Council that the Committee on International Trade Law, having accomplished its mandate, be dissolved, and requests the Executive Council to establish a new Committee on International Trade Law with a new mandate.