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## **NOTA VERBALE**

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands presents its compliments to the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) and, with regard to the international agreements that the Kingdom of the Netherlands is a party to, has the honour to inform UNIDROIT as follows.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands currently consists of three parts: the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. The Netherlands Antilles consists of the islands of Curação, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba.

With effect from 10 October 2010, the Netherlands Antilles will cease to exist as a part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. From that date onwards, the Kingdom will consist of four parts: the Netherlands, Aruba, Curação and Sint Maarten. Curação and Sint Maarten will enjoy internal self-government within the Kingdom, as Aruba and, up to 10 October 2010, the Netherlands Antilles do.

These changes constitute a modification of the internal constitutional relations within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Kingdom of the Netherlands will accordingly remain the subject of international law with which agreements are concluded. The modification of the structure of the Kingdom will therefore not affect the validity of the international agreements ratified by the Kingdom for the Netherlands Antilles. These agreements, including any reservations made, will continue to apply to Curação and Sint Maarten.

To:

The International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) 28 Via Panisperna, 00184

Rome, Italy

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The other islands that have until now formed part of the Netherlands Antilles – Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba – will become part of the Netherlands, thus constituting 'the Caribbean part of the Netherlands'. The agreements that now apply to the Netherlands Antilles will also continue to apply to these islands; however, the Government of the Netherlands will now be responsible for implementing these agreements.

A status report of the agreements that apply to Curação, Sint Maarten and/or the Caribbean part of the Netherlands, including any reservations and declarations, will be supplied in the near future.

The Embassy kindly requests the depositary to inform the parties to the relevant agreements of the modification of the Kingdom of the Netherlands described above.

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands avails itself of this opportunity to renew to UNIDROIT the assurances of its highest consideration.

Rome, 6 October 2010