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Item No. 15 on the agenda: The UNIDROIT web site and Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT documentation

(Memorandum prepared by the Secretariat)

<i>Summary</i>	<i>Developments concerning the UNIDROIT web site and depository libraries for UNIDROIT documentation</i>
<i>Action to be taken</i>	<i>The Governing Council is invited to continue to confirm the continued priority of the web site as a valuable means of disseminating and promoting UNIDROIT's activities</i>
<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Work Programme 2011-2013</i>
<i>Priority level</i>	<i>Medium</i>
<i>Status</i>	<i>Ongoing activity</i>
<i>Related documents</i>	<i>Annual Report 2010 (C.D. (90) 2, pp. 23-24, 49-50)</i>

BACKGROUND

I. UNIDROIT web site <<http://www.unidroit.org>>

1. The UNIDROIT Internet web site, fully bilingual in English and French, continues to be an extremely effective means of disseminating information on UNIDROIT and promoting its activities and instruments. Moreover it is an efficient means of communication between the Secretariat and the Governing Council, between the Secretariat and the representatives of Member States. It is also used during meetings of UNIDROIT governmental experts, UNIDROIT study groups and diplomatic conferences for the posting of documents in real time as soon as they are issued.
2. Traffic on the home page of the website as tracked by Google Analytics in the period 8 March – 7 April 2011 was: 9,509 visits and 12,942 page views from 134 countries; average time on the site 1.28 hours.
3. The content of the web site, which continues to be updated and incremented, now includes over 3,700 files in pdf and htm format. For a description of the content of the UNIDROIT web site see Appendix I.

4. Following the addition to the web site early in 2010 of the lists of the titles of all UNIDROIT studies issued since the foundation of the Institute with links to the documents, where available, in electronic format, work has continued on the development of this on-line archive of UNIDROIT studies. At present some 1300 studies (in English and in French) have been posted on the web site (see Appendix II for a complete list). A further 1200 studies should be scanned and posted in order to complete the on-line archive.

II. Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT documentation

5. To date, 51 libraries in 45 member States have been designated depositories for UNIDROIT documentation (*UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* on CD-ROM, the *Uniform Law Review*, New Series and other UNIDROIT publications on request). For the list of the Depository Libraries see Appendix III.

III. UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers on CD-ROM

6. An update of the CD-ROM containing *UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers* to include material issued in 2010 is under preparation and will be provided free of charge to the depository libraries for UNIDROIT documentation in the member States and to members of the Governing Council.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

7. *The Governing Council is invited to confirm the continued priority of the web site as a valuable means of disseminating and promoting UNIDROIT's activities and instruments.*

APPENDIX I**Content of the UNIDROIT internet web site**

- **“News and events”**: the web site’s opening page containing news items as well as the annual calendar of meetings being organised by UNIDROIT and elsewhere on UNIDROIT’s work;
- **“About UNIDROIT”**: an introduction to the Institute providing general information on its membership, including contact information concerning the national authority in each member State responsible for relations with UNIDROIT, structure, legislative policy, working methods, current work programme including non-legislative activities such as its scholarship programme and publishing activities as well as a list of its past achievements;
- an area of the web site accessible by password reserved to the **Governments of member States of UNIDROIT**;
- an area of the web site accessible by password reserved to the **Governing Council**;
- **“UNIDROIT instruments”**: a section of the web site containing:
 - the texts of **UNIDROIT Conventions** in a variety of languages as well as information on the technical assistance States may need in implementing those conventions; also included are the explanatory reports on UNIDROIT Conventions, the status reports on the state of ratifications of and accessions to those conventions and the texts of the declarations deposited with UNIDROIT under the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and under the Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment;
 - the integral version of the **UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts (2004)** in English, French, Italian and Spanish as well as the black letter rules in Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, German, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian and Vietnamese;
 - the **ALI/UNIDROIT Principles of Transnational Civil Procedure (2004)** (with commentary) in English, French and Japanese as well as the black letter rules in Chinese, German, Persian and Turkish;
 - the **UNIDROIT Model Law on Leasing (2008) and Official Commentary** in English and French as well as the Model Law in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish;
 - the **Model Franchise Disclosure Law (2002) and Explanatory Report** as well as a regularly updated version of Annex 3 to the **UNIDROIT Guide to International Master Franchise Arrangements** on “Legislation and Regulations Relevant to Franchising”;
- **“Work in Progress”**: a section of the web site containing documents and information relating to the items on the Work Programme - Principles of International Commercial Contracts (Study L), Preliminary draft Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on Matters specific to Space Assets (Study LXXII J), Netting of financial instruments (Study LXXVIII C), Principles and rules capable of enhancing trading in securities on emerging markets (Study LXXVIII), Third party liability for Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) services (Study LXXIX), Preparation of a new Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on Matters specific to agricultural, mining and construction equipment, Private law and development, Proposal for a model law on the protection of cultural property - as well as to UNIDROIT’s depositary functions;
- **“UNIDROIT Studies”**:

- lists of the titles of all UNIDROIT studies issued since the foundation of the Institute with links to the full text of those studies where available in electronic format for a total of some 1300 studies (see Appendix II for a description of the **On-line archive of UNIDROIT studies**);
- a subject index to all UNIDROIT studies;
- **“Institutional documents”**: since 1997 the Annual Reports on the activity of the Institute, the reports on the annual sessions of the General Assembly of Member States of UNIDROIT, and the Conclusions reached by the Governing Council of UNIDROIT at its annual sessions;
- **“UNIDROIT publications”**:
 - a list of all UNIDROIT publications in print available for purchase from UNIDROIT as well as the tables of contents of the *Uniform Law Review* New Series and an article from each issue;
 - the full text on-line edition of **UNIDROIT Proceedings and Papers** 1997 to present containing the Annual Reports on the activity of the Institute, the decisions taken by the Governing Council at its annual sessions, the reports on the sessions of the General Assembly of UNIDROIT member States, the final texts of instruments prepared under the auspices of UNIDROIT, documents concerning current work on instruments adopted as well as the preparatory work, consisting of the studies and reports of the various working groups and committees of governmental experts, on items on the UNIDROIT Work Programme;
- **“Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT Documentation”**: a list of libraries in UNIDROIT member States serving as depositories for UNIDROIT documentation;
- links to the on-line databases **UNILAW** (www.unidroit.info), **UNILEX** (www.unilex.info), and the **catalogue of the UNIDROIT library** (library.unidroit.org);
- **“Legal cooperation and research opportunities at UNIDROIT”**: general information on UNIDROIT’s activities in the field of legal co-operation and technical assistance;
- **“Internships and secondments”**: general information on the Secretariat’s policy concerning acceptance of requests for internships and secondments at UNIDROIT.

APPENDIX II**On-line archive of UNIDROIT studies**

Documents issued in connection with the following studies have been posted on the website:

- Study XIX – Agency in the international sale of goods (1937-1974)
- Study XLIII - Form of the international will (1961-1972)
- Study XLIV – Liability of international terminal operators (1966-1983)
- Study L - Principles of International Commercial Contracts (1998-2010)
- Study LVIII - The contract of factoring (1976-1987)
- Study LIX - The international financial leasing contract (1975-1987)
- Study LIX A - Model law on leasing (2005-2008)
- Study LXV – Programme of legal co-operation (1997-2010)
- Study LXVIII - Franchising contracts (1986-2002)
- Study LXIX - Organisation of an information system or data bank on uniform law (1994-2000)
- Study LXX - International protection of cultural property (1986-1995)
- Study LXXI - Internal relations between principals and agents in the international sale of goods (1989-1992)
- Study LXXII - International interests in mobile equipment (1989-2000)
- Study LXXII A - Model law in the general field of secured transactions (1994)
- Study LXXII B - Work of international organisations in the field of personal property security (1995)
- Study LXXII C - International interests in mobile equipment: consideration of the legal and technical issues raised by the establishment of an international register (1996-1997)
- Study LXXII D - International interests in aircraft equipment (1998-1999)
- Study LXXII H - Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Railway Rolling Stock (2000-2005)
- Study LXXII J - Draft Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets (2000-2010)
- Study LXXIV - Establishment of a UNIDROIT Foundation (1996)
- Study LXXVI - Principles of transnational civil procedure (1999-2005)
- Study LXXVIII - Transactions on transnational and connected capital markets (2002-2008)
- Study LXXIX - Third party liability for Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) services (2010)

APPENDIX III**Depository Libraries for UNIDROIT Documentation**

- Argentina: Corte Suprema de Justicia de la Nación, Secretaría de Investigación de Derecho comparado
- Australia: National Library of Australia
- Austria: Universität Wien, Universitäts Bibliothek, Fachbereichsbibliothek Rechtswissenschaften
- Belgium: Ministry of Justice
- Bolivia: Biblioteca Central de la Cancillería de la República, Montevideo
- Brazil: Serviço de Biblioteca e documentação - SBD, Universidad de São Paulo, Faculdade de Direito
- Bulgaria: Bulgarian National Library "St. Cyrill and St. Methodius"
- Canada : Nahum Gelber Law Library, McGill University
Canada: University of British Columbia Law Library
- Chile: Diplomatic Academy
- People's Republic of China: Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM)
- Colombia: Biblioteca Luis Angel Arango
- Czech Republic: Ministerstvo průmyslu a obchodu
- Egypt: Documentation Center, General Directorate of International and Cultural Co-operation, Ministry of Justice
- Estonia: National Library of Estonia
- Finland: Eduskunnan Kirjasto
- France: Bibliothèque Inter-universitaire Cujas
- Germany: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Abteilung Amtsdrukschriften und Internationaler Amtlicher Schriftentausch
- Greece: Library of the Hellenic Institute of International and Foreign Law
- Holy See: Biblioteca della Facoltà di Giurisprudenza, Libera Università Maria Ss. Assunta, (Rome)
- Hungary: Library of the Hungarian Parliament
- India: Library of the Indian Society of International Law
- Indonesia: Departemen Luar Negeri (Directorate for Economic, Social and Cultural Treaties Affairs, Directorate General of Legal and Treaties Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- Ireland: National Library of Ireland
- Japan: Ministry of Justice Library (Branch of National Diet Library)
- Latvia: Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia
- Luxembourg: Bibliothèque Nationale

Luxembourg: Centre Universitaire de Luxembourg

- Malta: Library Services, University of Malta
- Mexico: Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México City
- Mexico: Academia Mexicana de Derecho Internacional Privado y Comparado, México City
- Mexico: Biblioteca Loyola, Universidad Iberoamericana Tijuana
- Netherlands: Library of the Ministry of Justice
- Norway: Det juridiske fakultetsbibliotek, Universitetsbiblioteket i Oslo
- Poland: Sejm Library
- Portugal: Serviço de Biblioteca e Documentação Diplomática do Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros - Instituto Diplomático
- Portugal: Gabinete de Documentação e Direito Comparado, Procuradoria Geral da República
- Republic of Korea: Library of the Institute for Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)
- Romania: Biblioteca Nationala
- Russian Federation: Library of the Russian Academy of Foreign Trade
- Slovak Republic: Právnická fakulta Trnavskej Univerzity
- Slovenia (Republic of): National and University Library
- South Africa: Library of the Department of Justice, Directorate: Internal Affairs
- Spain: Universidad San Pablo CEU
- Sweden: Library of the Swedish Parliament
- Switzerland: Library of the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law
- Turkey: Library, Banca ve Ticaret Hukuku Arastirma Enstitüsü, Hukuk Fakültesi, Ankara Üniversitesi
- United Kingdom: Library of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
- United States of America: Arthur W. Diamond Law Library, Columbia University in the City of New York
- United States of America: Underwood Law Library, Dedman School of Law, Southern Methodist University
- Uruguay: Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de la República