

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ON PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**MEETING NOTICE – SAVE THE DATES!**

**MAY 20-21, 2004  
WASHINGTON, DC**

The Advisory Committee on Private International Law (ACPIL) will hold its next **general review of the “state of the world” concerning private international law on *Thursday and Friday, May 20 and 21, 2004 in Washington, D.C.*** Space may be limited, so please advise as early as possible if you plan to attend.

As in the past, we will combine discussion topics and reports on selected international projects. The aim of the meeting is both to impart information and provide time for open discussion, so we hope you will participate actively. The Agenda which will indicate on which day topics are likely to come up will be issued before the meeting to all attendees.

The topics tentatively selected for this meeting will include (some topics which were covered in the last ACPIL meeting will not be covered here, but may be back on the agenda for a Fall meeting):

- *Projections for the PIL field for the coming year:* international trends, including the mixed effects of globalization; the balance between multilateralism and the role of regional bodies, such as the EU, OAS, Mercosur, OHADA and others, and current EU-US issues.
- The Hague judgments convention and international dispute resolution: prospects and issues for 2004-2005; developments in alternative dispute resolution, NAFTA, etc. Is 2005 finally the year for a Judgments Convention?
- Maritime and transportation law: the latest effort in a 80 year quest for an international carriage of goods by sea treaty; the possibilities for and the pitfalls of a multimodal treaty; and new standards proposed for jurisdiction in cross-border cases
- Outer space finance: Round Two in negotiations for rules on private law financing in outer space, and the relationship of that to the existing UN Outer Space treaty system and public international space law.

- Family law and the emerging international process: bilateral and multilateral action on child support; protection of children and incapacitated adults; implementation of the Hague Conventions on child adoption and abduction – are all state parties on the same path?
- International commercial fraud, its growth and effects on stability of developing countries; UN efforts involving the UN Crime Commission and Uncitral
- International securities transactions and the computer age: The new Hague Convention on conflicts rules for securities intermediaries, and the start-up of the Unidroit project on harmonization of substantive rules for cross-border securities transactions
- The OAS and its choice of new PIL topics for its next Specialized Conference on Private International law (CIDIP-VII)

Recommendations for additional topics, subject to time availability, are welcome.

TIME AND PLACE: meetings will be held at the new facilities of the International Law Institute (ILI) at 1055 Jefferson Place, N.W. in historic Georgetown. As noted above, space for the meeting will be limited, so please let our assistant Cherise Reid, know as early as possible if you plan to attend, by email at ReidCD@State.gov or by fax at (202) 776-8482. We will need your current email and other addresses, and company, academic or other affiliations if any.

DOCUMENTS on these subjects are obtainable at [www.Uncitral.org](http://www.Uncitral.org); [www.hccl.net](http://www.hccl.net); [www.Unidroit.org](http://www.Unidroit.org); and [www.oas.org](http://www.oas.org). Additional documents will be provided by email wherever possible. Comments on any topic will be welcome from those that cannot attend.

For further information on the topics referred to, please contact Jeff Kovar at KovarJD@State.gov or at 202-776-8342, Mary Helen Carlson at CarlsonMH@State.gov or at 202-776-8425, or Hal Burman at Halburman@aol.com or at 202-776-8421. For information on the ILI call Kiril Glavev or Don Wallace, Jr. at 202-247-6006, or email ILI at Wallace@ili.org.

*For future notices, please remember to provide us with current email and fax numbers when you reply.* If you do not plan to attend the meeting, it would still be very helpful if you could provide these contact numbers, so we can keep you up to date on PIL developments.

We look forward to seeing you in Washington!

Hal Burman  
Advisory Committee  
Executive Director