Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to thank the Commission and its Working Groups for providing us with the report on the work of the Commission at the forty-sixth session, which is contained in document A/68/17.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia believes that UNCITRAL is the primary UN body with the mandate to address the legal aspects of international trade.

With that background, Indonesia expresses her commitment to contributing more positively to developing international trade law within the framework of UNCITRAL through her recent membership of UNCITRAL.

Over the years, we have witnessed the remarkable and concrete results of the work of UNCITRAL. In an increasingly economically interdependent world, the importance of an improved legal framework for the facilitation of international trade and investments is widely acknowledged.

UNCITRAL plays an important role in developing that framework because of its mandate to prepare and promote the use and adoption of legislative and non-legislative instruments in a number of key areas of commercial law, such as international commercial dispute settlement, electronic commerce, insolvency, international payments, sale of goods, transport law, secured transactions, procurements, infrastructure development and micro-finance.

Mr. Chairman,

The Commission is still going through a series of discussions in the area of arbitration and conciliation, security interests, insolvency law, public procurement, online dispute resolution and electronic commerce. Indonesia takes note with appreciation the progress and the continued efforts of the Working Groups to finalize all documents related to those issues. To this end, Indonesia remains committed to supporting all the processes, in the expectation of early conclusion of final results that would be acceptable and implementable by all the parties concerned.

Furthermore, Indonesia would also like to highlight other critical issues being discussed by the UNCITRAL, such as technical cooperation and assistance in the field of international trade law, particularly for the developing countries. As we understand it, the Commission relies on financial support to be able to respond to requests from States and regional organizations for technical cooperation and assistance activities.
In line with its commitment, Indonesia, together with other countries, has made financial contributions to the UNCITRAL Trust Fund. We however support UNCITRAL’s efforts to seek alternative mechanisms, even as it hopes for the voluntary contribution of States, towards generating contributions to aid technical cooperation and assistance activities.

Mr. Chairman,

Just as in the case of other countries, Indonesia recognizes the importance of stable and predictable legal framework for generating inclusive economic growth. Along this line, it is worth recalling the results of the recent APEC Summit Meeting held in Bali on 8 October 2013.

Amidst the backdrop of weakening global trade and slower growth in some regions, the leaders of 21 Pacific-rim economies pledged to implement prudent policies to maintain stability, declared the need to strengthen macroeconomic policies and agreed to guard against raising new trade and investment barriers.

However, time and time again, my delegation participates in the meetings of the Working Groups and the Commission with empty seats surrounding us. The level of participation in the Working Groups is especially alarming. Through this august Committee, I encourage members of the Commission to improve their participation.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, my delegation would like to reiterate Indonesia’s commitment, and encourage other States to support UNCITRAL. Furthermore, we commend the initiatives and efforts of UNCITRAL during the past year and look forward to its future activities in modernizing and harmonizing international trade law.

I thank you.

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