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Foreword

The Board of Editors is pleased to publish the proceedings of the *Journal's* third annual conference, "International Business Ventures: Planning and Drafting." Intended for both attorneys and international businessmen, the conference issue surveys the most common methods of structuring international business transactions. Each of the authors has attempted to focus on practical considerations important to those involved in or interested in becoming involved in transnational commercial ventures.

The *Journal's* first conference, entitled "Drafting an International Sales Contract: Problems and Remedies," was held in October 1978. Based on the success which this conference realized, including receipt of the award for the Most Useful Article by the publication *Lawyer's Brief* for the proceedings, the editors decided to focus again on the practical aspects of international transactions. For our third conference, a broader scope was sought to encompass a variety of ventures. The proceedings of our third conference, therefore, include a wide array of articles on various forms of international business operations. Other significant information on tax considerations and dispute settlement options is also included in this issue.

The conference and the published proceedings would not have been possible without the aid of a number of people. First, a steering committee of ten attorneys and businessmen provided much advice and support in the formative stages of the conference. Second, I would like to express appreciation on behalf of the Board and Staff of the *Journal* for the assistance provided by the North Carolina World Trade Association and Troxler Electronics Corporation. Third, recognition is due the many *Journal* members who spent long hours to ensure a third successful conference. Particular acknowledgment of the devoted efforts of my conference co-chairman, Joseph Schwertz, is necessary. Finally, I wish to thank Dean Kenneth S. Broun for his constant support for our efforts and for the entire international law program at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Kathleen T. Weaver
Editor-in-Chief

