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Introduction: Fifth Annual Conference on International Intellectual Property Law and Policy

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SYMPOSIUM

ADDRESSES

Introduction: Fifth Annual Conference on International Intellectual Property Law and Policy

John D. Feerick*

I would like to welcome all of you to Fordham Law School's Fifth Annual Conference on International Intellectual Property Law and Policy. I also would like to thank our distinguished moderators and speakers whose participation continues to make this one of the outstanding conferences in the field, with more than two-hundred registrants from all parts of the globe.

This year's outstanding seventy-member faculty includes attorneys from the Commission of the European Communities, the United States government, universities, and the international bar. It may interest you to know that our speakers and participants include individuals from six continents and twenty-four nations, including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, The Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The diversity of this year's topics is also impressive. During this two-day Conference, various panels will address such issues as *Patent, Trademark, and Copyright Developments in the European Union*; *Trademark Developments in Japanese Law*; *The Role of Performing Rights Societies in the Digital Age*; *The Madrid Proto-*

* Dean, Fordham University School of Law. A version of these remarks was delivered on April 3, 1997, at the opening of the Fifth Annual Conference on International Intellectual Property Law and Policy at Fordham University School of Law.

col; and *Cross-Cultural Problems in International Enforcement*, to name but a few of the sixty topics of discussion.

In addition to acknowledging our distinguished participants and thanking them for their gracious participation in this exceptional conference, I also would like to recognize our many sponsors whose ongoing generosity has made possible the continued growth of this annual program. Due to their support, we are able to present a program that continues to attract leading practitioners and scholars to share information in the increasingly complex and challenging world of intellectual property law and policy.

Selections from this Conference are being published in Volume VIII of the *Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal*, beginning with the Conference keynote address, *On Global Patent Cooperation*, by Judge Pauline Newman of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The *Journal* also is featuring from this Conference a discussion on copyright and international TRIPs compliance, a paper employing the pharmaceuticals industry as a model for trademark law issues caused by widespread distribution of repackaged and relabeled products, a paper on copyright in Central and Eastern Europe, and a paper on intellectual property law enforcement in China.

Those *Journal* selections from this Conference address some of the most recent developments in international intellectual property law, including the emergence of Europe's former socialist nations into the age of private intellectual property and the rise of intellectual property law in China. I trust that our presentations here and in the *Journal* will stimulate even more developments in those exciting areas of law.