

PREFACE

Volume X of the *Singapore Year Book of International Law* continues to provide a platform for the promotion of Asian, Southeast Asian and Singapore scholarship, and it continues our aim of publishing engaging and significant pieces on important issues of international law of great contemporary interest. Our articles continue to be reprinted widely on N.G.O. and other web-sites as well as in essay collections, while we have also taken note of our use in a recent Commonwealth appellate court private international law ruling.

The *Articles* section in this Volume of the *Year Book* has expanded slightly when compared to previous years. This is due to an expansion in the depth and breadth of the scholarship which we were eager to make available to our readership. We have the example of a re-examination of the *Rainbow Warrior Incident* by comparing and aligning various narratives of the same event to draw some conclusions about the interaction between the international and other legal orders. We also have a well-known publicist presenting his latest thoughts on the issues of power, justice and domination. In contrast, the impact of globalisation, technological inter-connectedness and information technology on international law has also prompted an adaptation of classic doctrines concerning the legal protection and regulation of diplomatic and consular relations to meet the needs of cyber diplomacy. In all these, new ideas are brought to older issues, and established ideas are applied to newer issues.

Volume X also continues the practice of publishing scholarship on the great topical issues of the day. U.N. reform is only one of them. There is, in addition, an insightful analysis of China's views on one of the most important institutional developments today—the International Criminal Court—as well as an analysis of the effect of reservations to multilateral treaties in this context.

In the *ASEAN Features* section, we continue to publish cutting-edge scholarship on issues and developments quite specific to the Southeast Asian region. In addition, the *Year Book* wishes to provide a valuable resource on developments in Singapore with its *Regular Features* section. Once again our aim is to give an overview of developments in Singapore on both public and private international law, and to provide timely analysis of one of the most dynamic areas for practitioners and academics in the region—international commercial arbitration.

We have benefited from the support of our colleagues, particularly the Dean, at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. The encouragement, support and advice of our non-executive board members have again been invaluable in informing us of the direction in which the *Year Book* ought to grow and develop. Finally, the time and effort put in by our Associate Editors have been instrumental in getting us there this year. I hope you will enjoy reading *Volume X*, and find it of interest and use.

Chin Leng LIM
Editor-in-Chief