# UNCITRAL - Third International Colloquium on Secured Transactions Presentation by Steve Weise

### CONTRACTUAL GUIDE TO SECURED TRANSACTIONS

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Subject
- 1.2 Panelists
- 1.3 What is a "contractual guide"
  - (a) Difference between a Legislative Guide and a Contractual Guide
- 1.4 Relationship with contract law and law of obligations generally
  - (a) Legislative guide does not replace all of contract law and the law of obligations
- 1.5 Party autonomy under the Guide (Recommendation 10)
  - (a) Agreement of the parties determines many rights and obligations (Recommendation 110)
  - (b)Certain mandatory rules (Recommendation 111)
    - (1) Obligations of good faith and commercial reasonableness cannot be waived (Recommendation 132)
  - (c) Certain non-mandatory rules (Recommendation 112)
  - (d) Variations permitted after default (Recommendation 133-134)
  - (e) Generally cannot affect the rights of a third party (Recommendation 135)

## 2. Overview of contractual guide

- 2.1 Desirability of having a contractual guide
- 2.2 Need for a contractual guide
- 2.3 Feasibility
  - (a) Can "one size fit all" for a contractual guide?
  - (b)Can a contractual guide assist for both civil and common law legal systems?
- 2.4 Novel provisions in the Guide that would benefit from more guidance
- 2.5 Examples:
  - (a) Name of grantor
  - (b)Descriptions of encumbered assets
- 2.6 Consider scope of Guide
  - (a) Make provision for kinds of encumbered assets not subject to the scope of the *Guide (Recommendation 4)*
- 2.7 Consider possible effect of consumer law of applicable jurisdiction
- 2.8 Key issues and model clauses
- 2.9 Consider effect of putting a label on the transaction to disguise the application of the secured transactions law (Recommendation 8)

### 3. Preparation of a contractual guide

- 3.1 What kinds of provisions does the Guide contemplate that a security agreement will or may address?
- 3.2 Form of contract
  - (a) Need for a writing (Recommendation 15)
- 3.3 Meaning of the agreement usage and practices (Recommendation 110)
- 3.4 Reflect intent to create a security right (Recommendation 14(a))
- 3.5 *Identify grantor (Recommendation 14(b))* 
  - (a) Type of entity
  - (b)Jurisdiction of formation
  - (c) Jurisdiction of location of grantor
- 3.6 *Identify secured creditor*
- 3.7 Describe the secured debt or obligation (Recommendation 14(c))
  - (a) State maximum amount (Recommendation 14(e))

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- (b) Secure future loans and advances?
- 3.8 Describe encumbered assets (Recommendation 14(d))
  - (a) By category or type?
  - (b) How much specificity?
  - (c)Location of the encumbered assets?
  - (d)Applies to future assets?
    - (1) Require new act of transfer for future assets? (Recommendation 23(b))
  - (e)Limit scope of "proceeds"? (Recommendation 19)
- 3.9 Agreements of grantor to protect effectiveness
  - (a) Restrictions on transfer of encumbered assets (Recommendation 81)
  - (b)Restrictions on creating other security rights in the encumbered assets
  - (c)Restrictions on grantor changing its name
  - (d)Restrictions on amalgamations with others
- 3.10 Representations about the grantor and the encumbered assets
  - (a) Ownership of the encumbered assets
  - (b) Title to the encumbered assets
    - (1) Does grantor promise that it has right to assign receivables? (Recommendation 114(a))
    - (2) Does grantor promise that debtor on the receivable will pay? (Recommendation 114(b))
- 3.11 Provide for actions and grantor's cooperation to make the security right effective against third parties
  - (a) Registration in general security rights registry
  - (b)Registration in specialized registries
  - (c) Other methods to make the security right effective against third parties
  - (d)Consider need for subordination agreement (Recommendation 94)
- 3.12 Provide for right of secured creditor to protect value of encumbered assets (Intellectual Property Supplement to Guide)
- 3.13 Default and enforcement issues
  - (a) Definition of "default"
  - (b)Preservation of encumbered assets
  - (c) Provide who will pay expenses of transaction (Recommendation 113)
  - (d)Agreements concerning collection of receivables
    - (1) Notification of the debtor on a receivable (Recommendation 115)
    - (2) Right to collection of receivable (Recommendation 116)
  - (e) Grantor's consent to extra-judicial possession following default (Recommendation 147)
- 3.14 Notices (Recommendations 149-151)
  - (a) To whom do notices go and at what address
- 3.15 Choice of law (Recommendation 216)
  - (a) May designate law applicable to rights of grantor and secured creditor as between each other
- 3.16 Electronic contracting (Recommendations 11-12)
- 3.17 Best practices
  - (a) Simplicity
  - (b)Level of detail