The New Zealand Association for Comparative Law is pleased to invite you to a seminar by Holger Jacobs and Dr Petra Butler

**CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE LAW AND PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW**

In today’s world, businesses and individuals are increasingly acting and competing internationally. Trans-border transactions are becoming more and more the rule rather than the exception. The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the Hague Conference on Private International Law have the common goal to establish an international legal framework in civil and commercial matters in order to facilitate trade and investment and provide for legal certainty in a globalised world. The approaches are, however, different. Whereas the Hague Conference on Private International Law works for the unification of the rules of private international law, UNCITRAL focuses on establishing a body of transnational substantive law through model laws and conventions.

The two presentations in this seminar will discuss the latest developments at UNCITRAL and the Hague Conference on Private International Law and put them into a global perspective.

Holger Jacobs is a German qualified jurist (Ass. jur.) and holds a postgraduate degree from the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer (Mag. rer. publ.). He has worked as a tutor and research assistant at the University of Mainz and as a lecturer at the University of Hamburg. Holger has gained experience in international litigation and arbitration working for leading international law firms in Frankfurt. He has published in various fields of law, including public law, family law and private international law. As an assistant to the Permanent Bureau, Holger observed the latest negotiations on a future convention on recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments at the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

Dr Petra Butler is Professor at the Faculty of Law, Victoria University of Wellington and Co-Director of the Centre for Small States at Queen Mary, University of London. Petra specialises inter alia in comparative law and private international law with an emphasis on international commercial contracts. She has published extensively in those areas, including, together with the late Professor Peter Schlechtriem, *UN Law on International Sales*. Petra is New Zealand’s CLOUT correspondent for the Convention on the International Sale of Goods (CISG) and the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts. Petra has held visiting appointments around the world, including at the Chinese University of Political Science and Law (Beijing), the University of Melbourne, the University of Adelaide, Bucerius Law School (Hamburg), Universidad de Navarra (Pamplona), and Northwestern University Law School (Chicago).

**Wednesday 9 August 2017 at 12.30**

Old Government Buildings
Socrates Room (GB238), Level 2
55 Lambton Quay, Wellington

*No RSVPs required*