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Introduction: Looking Ahead: Common Institutions or Muddling through

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INTRODUCTION: LOOKING AHEAD: COMMON INSTITUTIONS OR MUDDLING THROUGH?

Henry T. King, Jr.

Our final session, the climax session at this conference, is "Looking Ahead: Common Institutions or Muddling Through?" We have a speaker with whom I have had a long and very close association. He is the Canadian Chairman of the Joint ABA-CBA-Barra Mexicana Working Group on the Settlement of International Disputes. Our recommendations were, to a large extent, incorporated into the NAFTA. Many state and provincial laws and cross-border solutions were enacted as a result of what the Joint Working Group recommended. It is a recourse for victims of cross-border pollution attempting to give them standing in the courts of the polluter, which is very difficult both from a state-to-state and primarily of a cross-border standpoint.

Brad Smith has had a distinguished legal career. He had been chief litigation counsel for the Canadian government. He is currently with Stikeman Elliot, a very distinguished law firm in Ottawa. He received his B.A. from Mt. Allison University, and an M.A. and J.D. from Dalhousie University.

So, without further adieu, I present Brad Smith, eminently qualified to discuss this topic.

