HCCH HAGUE CONFERENCE ON PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW CONFÉRENCE DE LA HAYE DE DROIT INTERNATIONAL PRIVÉ

### The Hague Conference Judgments Project

### Haagse Conferentie unor Internationaal Privateort Marta Pertegás Haagská konference metinžrodního preva soukromáňa First Secretary Hague Conference on Private International Law Wuhan, People's Republic of China, 23 September 2013 and the balance and the b

Conferencia de La Haya de Derecho Internacional Privado Persidangan Hague tantang Undang-Undang Antarabangsa Persendirian Conferenza dell'Aja di diritto internazionale privata Хация конференција за неђунарадно приматно праве Adoregin the Xayne yis to Baumed Authole Alexan Гадрька нонференція з німнародного приватного права Хашка Конференција за Меѓународна Призатно Право Haagi Rahvurvahelise Erabiguse Konverents Haagin kansalmällisen yksityisolkeuden konferensi Haagkonferensen für internationell privaträtt Konferenca e Hages per te drejten nderkombetare private Comhdháill na Háige um dhlí príobháideach idimáisiúnta Konferenza ta' The Hague dwar II-Ligi Internazzjonali Privata Haagkonferansen for Internasjonal privabett Konferencja Haska Praws Prywatnego Miedzynarodowego Conferência da Haia de Direito Internacional Privado Conferinta de la Haga de Drept International Privat Conferenza da Den Haag dal dretg privat internaziunal Haugska konferencia medzinárodného práva súkromého 海牙国际私法会议 헤이그 국제사법회의 ヘーグ国際私法会議 Hagos tarptautinė privatinės teisės konferencija Halika kustiwencija o međunarodno privatnom pravu Halika konferenza za mednarodno zasebno pravo Halika konferencija za međunarodno privatno pravo Hang-siðstefnun um alþjöðlegan einkmälarétt Хатена Конференция не Международно Частно Права

Гаагская Нанфоренция нінкараднага прыватнага права Газгосая конференция по неждукародному частному пр Haager Könfereng für Internationales Privatrecht

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### Background

- Effects of judgments abroad?
- Since 1993, the Hague Conference has been working towards a global instrument for the cross-border circulation of foreign judgments in civil and commercial matters
- This work is known as the 'Judgments' Project'
- Work focused on an instrument on choice of court agreements in 2002 (until 2005).
- A decade later...

## Continuation of the Judgments Project

- In 2010, Members of the Hague Conference discussed the possible continuation of the Judgments Project.
- The following issues required further consideration:
  - what is needed by international litigants and judicial actors dealing with international cases?
  - what could be the basis for future work?
  - what is feasible for future negotiations?

## Continuation of the Judgments Project

- The Permanent Bureau presented three options for possible future work:
  - **Option 1**: A binding instrument on specific common grounds of jurisdiction *and* recognition/enforcement
  - **Option 2**: A binding instrument focusing on recognition/enforcement alone
  - **Option 3**: A non-binding instrument on jurisdiction and recognition/enforcement (or the latter alone)
- The document suggested convening an Experts' group to advise on areas where it might be feasible to resume work, and where consensus might be possible

### Continuation of the Judgments Project

- In 2011, the Council agreed that a Experts' group should be set up.
- In 2012, the Experts' group met for the first time and found that further work on cross-border litigation was desirable and recommended that:
  - work be undertaken by a Working Group towards a future binding instrument making provision for the recognition and enforcement of judgments; and
  - The Experts' group reconvene to consider matters of direct jurisdiction (including parallel proceedings).

### **Continuation of the Judgments Project**

- After considering the findings of the Experts' group, the Council agreed to the following two-track working method:
  - a working group prepares proposals on provisions relating to recognition and enforcement of judgments
  - The Experts' group reconvenes to consider and make recommendations on the desirability and feasibility of making provisions relating to matters of jurisdiction (including parallel proceedings)

# **Steps so far and tentative timeline for** future work

•April 2012 **Council gives** mandate to re-launch work on Judgments Project

#### •Feb 2013

Back-to-back meetings of Working Group and Experts' Group

•April 2013 Council notes work and ongoing consultations of the Working Group and Experts' Group

#### •**Research** to be carried out by Permanent Bureau on 1) collective redress and 2) jurisdiction and FNC at the level of recognition

#### Further meetings of the Experts' • Early 2014 Group

Further

Group

meetings of

the Working

**•2015** 

 Special Commission to consider proposals submitted by Working Group

### **Issues currently under discussion**

- Should work on recognition and enforcement be prioritised?
  - Secretariat's suggested answer: yes
- What does it mean in practice?
  - Working Group meets and makes progress until its mandate is sufficiently advanced/completed.
  - Experts' Group work is delayed to a later stage (yet to be addressed as mandated by Council)
- Research and preparations underway Wuhan as a forum for consultations among Asia Pacific States.

### **Judgments Project Section**

# More information available on the Judgments Project section of the Hague Conference website



### Thank you

### **Questions?**

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