Opening Remarks

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I am described on the programme as participating in the ‘Welcome’, though it is difficult to tell how much welcoming remains to be done after the comprehensive observations of Rumiana Yotova and Andrew Sanger. Nonetheless, at the very least, some words of appreciation are owed to the organisers of this Conference. Familiar as they both will be to many of you, they may not be known to all of you. And so it is appropriate to embrace both Rumiana and Andrew to the confraternity of those who in their careers have had a hand in the advancement of international law by furthering the production of learned journals. And these friendly greetings are the more enthusiastic because of the fact that they are initiating a completely new journal—the Cambridge Journal of International and Comparative Law, to be edited by students of the law. Though some may have had doubts about the need for yet another periodical in the field, the fact remains that there is still room for a periodical supplementary to the books that form the admirable Cambridge Studies of International and Comparative Law. And, from the lists of the contributions to be offered today and tomorrow, it appears that there still remains a rich vein of personnel and material to be quarried.

But in addition to the substantive and original contribution these papers will make to the content of international legal literature, there is the much-to-be-appreciated emergence of new names in the international literary and academic scene. Rumiana and Andrew are greatly to be praised for their skill in the recruitment of authors. We must hope that those who first appear amidst us on this occasion will be names that become more familiar as time passes.

At the other end of the time spectrum of involvement in international law, kind things have been said about me. I appreciate this and am reminded of the story about Eva Peron who was at one time confronted by a hostile mob howling outside her house the word ‘Prostitute’. Understandably, she was distressed and

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telephoned for advice to an old friend of hers. He replied: 'Madame, do not be upset. I have been retired from the Army for 20 years and they still call me Colonel.'

I should no longer stand between you and the intellectual feast that lies before us. I welcome, and gladly make way for, one of Cambridge's most distinguished international law graduates, Judge Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade of the International Court of Justice. He honours us by his presence and we are very glad that he has come back to us now.