

Dear Visitors,

Welcome to this website and welcome to Rotterdam, Netherlands, in September 2009.

We are extremely proud that the United Nations General Assembly has authorized the Netherlands' Ministry of Transport, the Municipality of Rotterdam and the Port of Rotterdam Authority to host the events announced on this website.

We feel honoured that the United Nations Member States decided to link the name of our City and the largest European Port to such an important Convention and to open this Convention for signature in Rotterdam.

Undersigned are very pleased that so many eminent speakers from all over the world will come to Rotterdam to present their views on the Rotterdam Rules during the Colloquium held under the auspices of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the Comité Maritime International (CMI).

As hosts, we sincerely hope that you will visit Rotterdam during 20 - 23 September 2009 and enjoy the program that we have organised around these two major maritime and historic events.

See you all in Rotterdam,



Camiel Eurlings
Minister of Transport, Public Works and Water Management



Ahmed Aboutaleb
Mayor of Rotterdam



Hans Smits
CEO of the Port of Rotterdam Authority