



United Nations
Commission on International Trade Law

UNCITRAL Working Group II
Colloquium on
the use of artificial intelligence in dispute
resolution
and
remote hearings in arbitration and mediation

Programme

BACKGROUND

The eighty-third session of Working Group II is scheduled to be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 16 to 20 February 2026, with 16 February (from 3 to 6 p.m.) and 17 February (from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.) devoted to a Colloquium on the following two topics:

1. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in dispute resolution; and
2. Remote hearings in arbitration and mediation.

The webpage of the colloquium can be found at https://uncitral.un.org/en/colloquium_aidisputeresolution .

At its fifty-eighth session (Vienna, 7-23 July 2025), the Commission considered the Note by the Secretariat on Stocktaking of Developments in Dispute Resolution in the Digital Economy – Progress Report (A/CN.9/1215), a Submission from the Inclusive Global Legal Innovation Platform on Online Dispute Resolution (A/CN.9/1224) and a Submission by the Government of Israel regarding exploratory work on remote arbitration and mediation (A/CN.9/1233).

After discussion, the Commission noted with appreciation the work carried out by the Secretariat and the future work proposals. Appreciation was also expressed to the Government of Japan for its continued support of the project on dispute resolution in the digital economy. The Commission requested the Secretariat to continue its exploratory work on the project, including that a colloquium be held during a session of Working Group II on the two topics mentioned above, to enable the Working Group to formulate a recommendation to the Commission on possible future work. An expert group meeting organised by the Inclusive Global Legal Innovation Platform on Online Dispute Resolution was held on 2 December 2025.

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Monday, 16 February

15:00 - 15:10	Welcome Address and Introduction • Anna Joubin-Bret, the Secretary of UNCITRAL • Takashi Takashima, Director, International Office, Litigation Bureau, Ministry of Justice of Japan
15:10 - 18:00	Panel 1: Arbitrators and the Use of AI – Impact on Recognition and Enforcement This panel aims to consider guidance for arbitrators on the responsible use of AI, in particular with respect to the impact on recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards. Current practices vary widely: some arbitrators seek party agreement before using AI, others disclose its use in the award, while some do neither. AI tools are increasingly used in two main areas: 1. Substantive support – assisting with tasks such as document review and case analysis. 2. Procedural support – helping with scheduling, case management, and other administrative tasks. The discussion will examine the potential effects of AI on the recognition and enforceability of arbitral awards and consider measures to mitigate or avoid any adverse impacts. Topics for discussion: • Disclosure of AI use in the arbitral process • AI-assisted decision-making • AI-assisted document review and analysis • Automation in scheduling and procedural management • Balancing efficiency and fairness • Safeguarding confidentiality Moderator: Judith Knieper, Legal Officer, ITLD, Secretary of WGII Speakers: • Ms. Cristen Bauer, Director of External Affairs, Head of Policy, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Ciarb) • Ashleigh Broccchieri, Deputy Expert Counsel, International Court of Arbitration, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) • Diana Didia, Executive Vice President, Chief Information & Innovation Officer, International Centre for Dispute Resolution, American Arbitration Association (AAA-ICDR) • Sapna Jhangiani KC, Blackstone Chamber, Judge of the Court of Appeal of the Dubai International Finance Centre (DIFC) Courts • Crenguta Leaua, Board Member SVAMC and VIAC, Director of the Swiss Institute of Alternative Thinking • Kevin Nash, Director General of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) • Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballel, Full Professor of Commercial Law, Director of the Chair AI: Foundations & Frontiers, Universidad Carlos 3 de Madrid • Marina Weiss, Partner at Bredin Prat and member of IBA Working Group on arbitration and artificial intelligence

10:00-13:00	Panel 2: Use of AI in Mediation and Remote Mediation Mediation relies heavily on interaction, trust, and the ability to grasp nuances in communication. Remote mediation introduces new dynamics that can affect engagement, confidentiality, and the mediator’s capacity to manage sessions effectively. At the same time, the increasing use of artificial intelligence tools—such as AI-assisted scheduling, document management, real-time transcription, and decision-support technologies—raises new opportunities as well as ethical and procedural questions for mediators. This panel will examine how remote mediation and AI-enabled tools can be used effectively while safeguarding the core principles of mediation, including voluntariness, confidentiality, neutrality, and party autonomy. Participants will share experiences, challenges, and practical approaches to maximizing participation, managing information securely, and ensuring that AI supports—rather than substitutes—the human judgment and trust that are central to the mediation process. Topics for discussion: • Use of ai in mediation • Managing participant engagement and communication in remote mediation • Managing private caucuses and confidential discussions remotely Moderator: Neale Bergman, Senior Legal Officer, ITLD Speakers: • Ximena Bustamante, Partner, PACTUM Dispute Resolution Consulting • Zhibei Feng, Shanghai International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, Shanghai International Arbitration Center (SHIAC) • Marc Mc Laughlin, Global Visiting Assistant Professor, Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University and Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy (SIDRA) • Frauke Nitschke, Team Leader, Legal Counsel on one of the Case Management Teams, International Centre for Settlement of Disputes (ICSID) • Marike Paulsson, Secretary General for the Council for International Dispute Resolution of the Kingdom of Bahrain • Natascha Tunkel, Partner, KNOETZL
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 18:00	Panel 3: Remote Hearings in Arbitration – Procedural Guidance and Best Practices Remote hearings have become a key feature of modern arbitration. While they offer efficiency and flexibility, they also present challenges related to fairness, confidentiality, technical reliability, and procedural consistency, particularly in hybrid settings where some participants attend in person and others remotely. This panel will explore practical tools and guidance for conducting remote hearings in arbitration. Participants will discuss current practices, challenges, and strategies to ensure that remote proceedings uphold due process, maintain party confidence, and produce enforceable awards. Topics for discussion: • Ensuring fairness and transparency in remote and hybrid arbitration • Assessing credibility and evaluating evidence in virtual or mixed formats • Conducting witness and expert testimony remotely: challenges and solutions • Adapting procedural rules to remote and hybrid formats • Lessons learned from recent practice • Managing time zones and scheduling constraints

	Moderator: Andrés Jana, Chair, UNCITRAL Working Group II Speakers: • Stefano Azzali, Director General, Milan Chamber of Arbitration • Evgeniya Goriatcheva, Senior Legal Counsel and Head of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) Vienna office • Tafadzwa Pasipanodya, Partner, International Litigation and Arbitration, Foley Hoag • Ramona Schardt, Secretary General, German Arbitration Institute • Valeria Senatorova (Butyrina), CEO, Russian Arbitration Center, Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration (RIMA) • Shai Sharvit, Partner, Herzog, Fox & Neeman
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