



REFERENCE: LA/TL 133 (15-1) 58th SM/akb

15 April 2021

Dear delegates and observers at the fifty-eighth session of UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law),

In accordance with the decision adopted by the States members of UNCITRAL on 19 August 2020, on the format, officers and methods of work of the UNCITRAL working groups during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic ([A/CN.9/1038](#), annex, I), extended by the decision of the States members of UNCITRAL of 9 December 2020 ([A/CN.9/LIII/CRP.14](#)), I, Harold Foo (Singapore), as the Chair of the Working Group, have the pleasure to announce the following arrangements for its fifty-eighth session.

The session will be serviced from Vienna and will be held for four days from Tuesday, 4 May, to Friday, 7 May 2021 (3 May 2021 being a United Nations official holiday in Vienna). The meeting hours will be as follows (Central European Summer Time):

Tuesday, 4 May 2021	11:00-13:00	15:00-17:00
Wednesday, 5 May 2021	11:00-13:00	15:00-17:00
Thursday, 6 May 2021	-	15:00-17:00
Friday, 7 May 2021	-	15:00-17:00

Arrangements put in place for the session will allow delegations to participate at the session in person (Vienna International Centre, Conference Room C-4, 7th floor) or remotely (Interprefy platform). It will not be possible to attend the session in person at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Connection details for Interprefy will be communicated by the Secretariat to you in due course. You will be able to test your video/audio/connection before each meeting.

The provisional agenda for the session ([A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.171](#)) is available on the web page of the Working Group in the six languages of the United Nations. I would like to draw your attention that, as at the 57th session of the Working Group (Vienna (online), 7-10 December 2020), there will be no election of officers and no adoption of the report during the session. In accordance with the decisions referred to above, the Rapporteur at the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions of the Working Group, Ms. Jasnica Garašić (Croatia), and I will continue our respective offices.

At the session, the Working Group is expected to consider a revised draft text on simplified insolvency regime ([A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.172](#) and Add.1, available on the web page of the Working Group). I intend to start the reading of the text from the draft recommendations not considered by the Working Group at its 57th session (found in [A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.172/Add.1](#)), then proceed to the draft recommendations deferred from the 57th session and the remaining draft recommendations (found in [A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.172](#)) and conclude with the draft commentary (found in both [A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.172](#) and Add.1). I also intend to allocate time on the last day of the session for the Working Group to discuss the approach and next steps for bringing the draft text to the attention of the Commission.

As had been the case at the previous session, the Rapporteur and I, with the assistance of the Secretariat, will prepare a summary of the deliberations and any conclusions reached during the session in a format similar to that of usual Working Group reports, which will be circulated for comments to the delegations after the session. It will be amended if and as necessary on the basis of the comments received. My hope is that the Working Group would be satisfied with the final summary and would be willing to adopt it as the report of the session and transmit it to the Commission for consideration at its fifty-fourth session this year.

If I do not receive any objection or alternative proposals on the agenda by 26 April 2021, it will be considered adopted at the beginning of the session (item 2 of the provisional agenda).

I will again chair the session remotely, and I encourage those of you in a similar situation to participate remotely so that the Working Group can make progress. I will take steps to ensure an inclusive and transparent approach and adjust the pace and organization of the session to accommodate both remote and in-person participation, especially as delegations may face technological difficulties. Considering the limited time allocated for the session, I would urge delegations to make concise interventions not exceeding three (3) minutes on a specific provision. This will ensure that we make efficient use of the resources available to the Working Group.

Delegations wishing to make written submissions are invited to do so in advance of the session to facilitate the discussions. Submissions should be made to the secretary of the Working Group (Ms. Samira Musayeva at samira.musayeva@un.org). Considering that the Working Group session is a few weeks away, it might not be feasible to have submissions translated into the other official languages of the United Nations. I will make efforts to ensure that submissions are adequately reflected in our deliberations and in a summary of the session.

Please feel free to convey your comments on the proposed arrangements for the session to me (harold_foo@mlaw.gov.sg) with a copy to the secretary of the Working Group (Ms. Samira Musayeva, samira.musayeva@un.org).

I look forward to working with you at the session.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Harold', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Harold Foo
Chair

UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law)