

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW
(UNCITRAL) Working Group III: Investor-State Dispute Settlement
Reform**

Draft statute of an advisory centre

Note by the Secretariat

Comments from the Republic of Colombia

I. General comments

1. Colombia thanks the Secretariat for preparing this draft provisions on statute of an advisory centre prepared by the UNCITRAL Secretariat; and submits its comments to such draft.
2. For Colombia, the advisory centre has the potential to evolve into a hub for thoughtful discourse, placing a robust emphasis on enhancing capacities and providing expert guidance in the realms of dispute prevention and consultancy for litigation scenarios.
3. It is worth noting that the mere fact of submitting these comments does not prejudice Colombia's position regarding the functioning and establishment of a possible advisory centre nor signals it is in favor or against said mechanism. Colombia is conducting internal assessments in order to determine the convenience and impact of this reform option, from a holistic perspective.
4. Colombia reserves its right to modify, withdraw or make further comments or state a specific position on this and any other issues in the course of discussions taking place within the Working Group III on a possible Investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) reform.

II. Specific comments

Article 6 – Technical assistance and capacity-building

5. Referring to Paragraph 4 of Article 6, Colombia holds the view that the provision of assistance and capacity-building services by the center is inappropriate for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) or any investor. This position is grounded in the apprehension that this arrangement may suggest the center, funded by taxpayer money from states, is endorsing and furthering potential claims by investors in investment disputes.
