



UNCITRAL Colloquium on the Law of International Trade for a Greener Future

Vienna, 23-24 October 2024



Vienna International Centre



BACKGROUND

The UNCITRAL Colloquium on the Law of International Trade for a Greener Future will be held in Boardroom D of the Vienna International Centre on 23-24 October 2024, utilizing part of the conference time allocated to Working Group I of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). The webpage of the colloquium is found at <https://uncitral.un.org/en/climatechange colloquium2024>.

At its fifty-seventh session, in 2024, UNCITRAL requested the secretariat to organize a colloquium on the relevance of UNCITRAL instruments to climate action, notably the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG), the Model Law on Public Procurement, the Model Legislative Provisions on Public-Private Partnerships and the instruments on dispute settlement. The colloquium should help UNCITRAL assess the desirability for the secretariat to prepare guidance documents on the practical application and interpretation of existing instruments and possible supplementary texts to address issues concerning climate action.

In response to the request, the UNCITRAL secretariat is organizing the UNCITRAL Colloquium on the Law of International Trade for a Greener Future on 23 and 24 October 2024 at the Vienna International Centre (Vienna, Austria). The colloquium will consist of four panels, which will discuss how UNCITRAL texts in each of the topical areas of (a) public procurement, (b) international sale of goods, (c) public-private partnerships, and (d) dispute settlement relate to and can support climate action. The discussions are expected to develop recommendations and conclusions on whether and how additional texts, either guidance documents to existing texts or supplementary texts, could enhance the contribution made by UNCITRAL to the achievement of climate action goals set by the international community.

Participants at the Colloquium are invited to contribute to the discussion of those issues. Virtual participation will be facilitated, while participants are strongly encouraged to attend and contribute to the colloquium in person.

The main conclusions of the Colloquium will be presented to the Commission for consideration at its fifty-eighth session in 2025.

Programme

Wednesday, 23 October 2024

9:00	Registration of participants
9:30	Welcome Address and Introduction
9:45	<p>1. <i>Toward Greener Procurement</i></p> <p><i>This panel will focus on trends and initiatives, both internationally and domestically, to modernize public procurement through the incorporation of “green” considerations in the procurement procedures and will assess the scope and best methods of incorporating “green” procurement in the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p><i>Mr. Michel Nussbaumer</i>, Director, Legal Transition Team, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Ms. Carina Risvig Hamer</i>, Professor, Centre for Climate Change Law and Governance, University of Copenhagen (Copenhagen)</p> <p><i>Mr. Reto Malacrida [tbc]</i>, Counsellor in the Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)</p> <p><i>Mr. Roberto Caranta</i>, Professor of Law, University of Turin (Turin, Italy)</p> <p><i>Mr. Christopher R. Yukins</i>, Lynn David Research Professor in Government Procurement Law, George Washington University (Washington, DC)</p>
12:00	Open discussion
12:30	Lunch
14:00	<p>2. <i>Greening the Supply Chain: A Perspective from the CISG</i></p> <p><i>This panel will discuss the emerging need for greening commercial goods supply chains and will discuss climate-related regulations, voluntary commitments and contractual requirements applicable to supply chains from the perspective of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG), both in terms of applicable law and enforcement mechanisms and substantive rules on conformity of goods, breach of contract and damages.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p><i>Mr. José Angelo Estrella Faria</i>, Principal Legal Officer, UNCITRAL</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Ms. Yeşim M. Atamer* [tbc]</i>, Professor of Law, University of Zurich (Zurich, Switzerland)</p> <p><i>Mr. Henry Gabriel*</i>, Professor of Law, Elon University (Elon, USA)</p> <p><i>Mr. Edgardo Muñoz López</i>, Professor of Law, Universidad Panamericana (Guadalajara, Mexico)</p> <p><i>Mr. Hiroo Sono*</i>, Professor of Law, Hokkaido University (Hokkaido, Japan)</p>
16:30	Open discussion
17:00	Closing of Day 1

Asterisk (*) for indicating speakers participating online.

Programme

Thursday, 24 October 2024

9:00	Registration of participants and opening of the second day
9:30	<p>3. <i>Enhancing Climate Action Through Public-Private Partnerships</i></p> <p><i>This panel aims to look into how States could enhance their climate actions through public-private partnerships and whether the UNCITRAL Model Legislative Provisions on Public-Private Partnerships provides an adequate legal mechanism for States in this regard.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Don Wallace, Chairman, International Law Institute</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Jean-Christophe Barth-Coullaré, Executive Director, World Association of PPP Units & Professionals (WAPPP)</p> <p>Mr. Fuguo Cao, Professor of Law, Dean of the China Academy of PPP Governance, Central University of Finance and Economics (Beijing)</p> <p>Mr. Christophe Dossarps*, CEO, Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation (SIF - Source)</p> <p>Ms. Assiba Djemaoun [tbc], PPP Coordinator, AFD Group</p> <p>Ms. Jane Jamieson [tbc], Program Manager, Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF) and the Quality Infrastructure Investment Partnership (QII Partnership)</p>
12:00	Open discussion
12:30	Lunch
14:00	<p>4. <i>Better Settlement of Climate Change Disputes: A View from UNCITRAL</i></p> <p><i>The aim of this panel is to consider the role of UNCITRAL dispute resolution texts in contributing to efficient and fair settlement of climate change disputes, in particular, the UNCITRAL texts in the field of arbitration and mediation for both international commercial and investment disputes.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>[tbc]</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Ms. Aisha Abdallah*, Partner, Head of Litigation and Disputes, Anjarwalla & Khanna (Nairobi)</p> <p>Ms. Tomoko Ishikawa, Vice Dean and Professor, Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University (Nagoya, Japan)</p> <p>Ms. Annette Magnusson, Co-Founder, Climate Change Counsel</p> <p>Ms. Wendy Miles KC, Barrister, Twenty Essex (London) and Representative, Net Zero Lawyers Alliance</p>
16:00	Open discussion
16:30	Concluding discussion of the Colloquium
17:00	Closing of the Colloquium