



From Chongqing to Accra: The Making of a New Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents (NCDs)

Tuesday, 16 December 2025 | 12:45–14:00 | VIC Restaurant

Side event during the 47th session of the UNCITRAL Working Group VI (Negotiable Cargo Documents)

Agenda

12:45–12:50 | Opening remarks
Ms. Anna Joubin-Bret
Secretary of UNCITRAL

12:50–13:15 | Remarks by Friends of NCDs

- **Ambassador LI Song**
Permanent Representative of China to the UN and other International Organizations in Vienna
- **Mr. Paul Nana Sei OSEI**
Alternate Permanent Representative of Ghana to the UN Offices in Vienna
- **Prof. Dr. Beate Czerwenka**
Chair of UNCITRAL Working Group VI (Negotiable Cargo Documents)

13:15–14:00 | Reception hosted by the Permanent Mission of China





Understanding Negotiable Cargo Documents (NCDs): A Practical Overview



Anna Joubin-Bret
Secretary of UNCITRAL



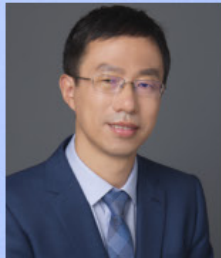
Andrea Tang
Legal Services Director
International Federation
of Freight Forwarders
Associations



James Hookham
Director
Global Shippers Forum



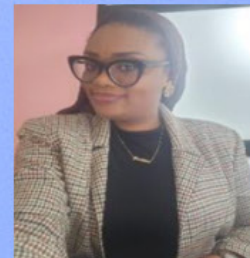
Pamela Mar
Managing Director
ICC Digital Standards
Initiative



Zuoxian Zhu
Dean of the School of Law
Dalian Maritime University



Jun XU
Vice Chair of ICC Banking
Commission Steering
Committee/ Director Senior
Manager of Bank of China



Nogaye Diop
Regional Rapporteur for
Africa and project lead,
UN/CEFACT

Session highlights

- Unlocking Trade Potential with NCDs
- Real-World Role Play: When and Why NCDs Matter
- Soft Launch of the NCD Guide
- Industry Templates: FIATA FBL & COSCO's NCD
- Practical Insights: How Business Can Get NCD-Ready

16 December 2025 | 17:10-18:30 CET
Hybrid format- Vienna & Online

Click [here](#) to register

No registration fee.

In-person participation is limited to delegates and observers to UNCITRAL Working Group VI session.



[UN Web TV NCD explainer video](#)



United Nations
Commission on International Trade Law

Hybrid side event

Wednesday 17 December 2025
12:45 PM – 13.45 PM CET
Hybrid (via Zoom and in person)

Side event during the 47th session of
UNCITRAL Working Group VI
(15-19 December 2025, Vienna)

The background of the poster features a dark blue gradient. In the lower-left foreground, a black laptop is open, with its screen reflecting the colorful beads of an abacus. A wooden abacus with multiple rows of colorful beads (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) is positioned diagonally across the center. Several white papers with text are floating in the air around the abacus. The title 'Uniform standards for reliability assessment' is overlaid in large yellow text on a dark blue rectangular background in the lower-right.

Uniform standards for reliability assessment

Register here:





Programme

12:45 - 12:50 p.m. — Introductory remarks by Luca Castellani, Legal Officer, UNCITRAL secretariat

12:50 - 1:05 p.m. — GUO Yu, Associate Professor, Peking University Law School

1:05 - 1:20 p.m. — Keith Jansa, Chief Executive Officer, Digital Governance Council

1:20 - 1:35 p.m. — Marina Comninou, Co-Head, ICE Digital Trade

1:35 - 1:45 p.m. — Discussion and Q & A

Speakers

GUO Yu

Associate professor and the director of the Maritime Law Research Centre of Beijing University



GUO Yu is an associate professor and the director of the Maritime Law Research Centre of Beijing University. She obtained her master's degree from the Shanghai Maritime University, PhD from the Beijing University and LLM from the University of Cambridge. She joined the faculty at the Law School of Beijing University, where she is teaching since 1996.

Her main research interests are maritime law, international commercial law and e-commerce law. Among the several works of Guo Yu are: *A Study on the Bill of Lading* (1997), *The Law of International Sale of Goods* (1999), *The Spirit of Maritime Law: Theory and Practice in China* (2006), *Legal Protection of Personal Data* (2012), and *Legislation on Electronic Transferable Record: Problem and Solution* (2019).

Guo Yu participated as a member of the Chinese delegation in the negotiation of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records, UNCITRAL Model Law on Warehouse Receipts and the United Nations Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents.



Keith Jansa
Chief Executive Officer of the Digital Governance Council



Keith Jansa is the Chief Executive Officer of the Digital Governance Council. He works with executives from across Canada to address digital governance opportunities and challenges to safeguard Canadians in an increasingly digital world. His unparalleled acumen in devising strategies for responsible data and digital governance has earned the Digital Governance Council the distinction as preeminent technology leadership council globally. Keith is a provincially appointed member of the Ontario Health Data Council and selected member of the Information and Privacy Commission of Ontario's Strategic Advisory Council. He is a specialist in the strategic application of standards. Keith was named one of the 10 most influential business leaders in 2023 by The Inc Magazine. Keith graduated with honors from the University of Ottawa with a degree in health sciences.

Marina Comninou
Co-Head, ICE Digital Trade (formerly essDOCS)



Marina joined essDOCS on a part-time basis in 2006 as General Counsel and took a full-time role as Head of Solution Delivery in 2013. Later in the same year, Marina was appointed Chief Operating Officer, and in 2018, was named Co-CEO & Chief Operating Officer. Today, Marina serves as Co-Head of ICE Digital Trade – a role she has held since the acquisition of essDOCS by Intercontinental Exchange Inc. in 2022 – taking on joint leadership duties with Co-Head, Alexander Goulandris.

Marina is a member of the Law Society of England and Wales, and a member of the ICC Commercial Law & Practice Commission. She holds a bachelor's degree in Government and Law from the London School of Economics and an LLM in Maritime Law from University College London. Marina is admitted to practice as a Solicitor in England and Wales, and prior to ICE Digital Trade, had worked as a solicitor for Clifford Chance.