

The UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day is an annual flagship academic series launched in 2014 by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (“UNCITRAL RCAP”) to celebrate the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 establishing UNCITRAL, which has since come to be the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law.

This year, an initial 20 universities and institutions across the Asia-Pacific region in 12 jurisdictions have joined the annual celebration to commemorate the establishment of UNCITRAL by co-hosting a series of academic events with UNCITRAL RCAP to promote awareness of international trade standards and norms, particularly those endorsed by UNCITRAL, amongst law students — the next generation of legal thinkers and policymakers. The main theme of the UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day 2021 is “Enabling MSMEs and Assisting Economic Recovery through Legal Harmonization”. Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (“MSMEs”) represent the majority of businesses in most jurisdictions and account for a large portion of overall employment. However, MSMEs worldwide experience similar obstacles to doing business at all stages of their operation. These obstacles have been exacerbated by the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Asia Pacific Day 2021 theme provides a synoptic view of how different areas of the work of UNCITRAL reduce the legal obstacles encountered by MSMEs throughout their life cycle.

Date: 20/12/2021

**Venue: - Foreign Trade University, Main Campus (91 Chua Lang, Dong Da, Ha Noi, Viet Nam)
- Online via Zoom**

Program:

Time	Session
13h30-14.00	<i>Registration</i>
14h00-14.30	<p>Opening remarks</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Dr. Ha Cong Anh Bao <i>Vice Dean, Faculty of Law, Foreign Trade University</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ms. Athita Komindr <i>Head of the UNCITRAL Regional Center for Asia and the Pacific</i></p> <p>Keynote speech</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Dr. Luca Castellani <i>Legal officer in the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)</i></p>
14h30-15.30	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 1: SMEs and international business</p> <p>Chair: <i>Dr. Ha Cong Anh Bao (Vice Dean, Faculty of Law, Foreign Trade University)</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Mr. Le Anh Van, Director of the Center for Legal Support and Human Resource Development, Association of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises: Advantages and disadvantages of SMEs in international trade integration</i> <i>Ms. Le Thi Kim Thanh, Head of the Department of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Support Center, VCCI</i></p>
15h30-16.30	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 2: CISG & SMEs</p> <p>Chair: <i>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Minh Hang (Head of International Business Department, Faculty of Law, Foreign Trade University)</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Tran Thanh Tam (Foreign Trade University, Vietnam; PhD Candidate, La Trobe University, Australia): Gap fillings and several issues for SMEs</i> <i>Nguyen Trung Nam (Founding Partner, EPLegal): Practical tips for SMEs in drafting CISG contracts</i></p>
16h30-17.00	Concluding remarks: <i>Dr. Ha Cong Anh Bao (Vice Dean, Faculty of Law, Foreign Trade University)</i>