



“Throughout the world, women’s participation in international trade still requires support and international trade law can provide it” the UNCITRAL Secretary’s pledge as International Gender Champion, Vienna Hub

Venue: Boardroom D, Vienna International Centre

Time: Tuesday, 18 July 2023, from 12.50 to 1.50 pm

Language: English

Trade has improved the living standards of women around the globe. Trade creates better jobs for women, businesses involved in international trade employ more women and countries that are more open to trade have higher levels of gender equality. However, women still face many barriers that prevent them from gaining greater trade opportunities. In addition, measures to promote trade, although gender-neutral, can affect women and men differently. A better understanding of the relationship between women and trade is essential to promote a more inclusive trade environment and identify women-supportive policies. [WB Group and WTO, *Women and Trade - the role of trade in promoting gender equality, 2020*].

Facilitating access to credit is among the measures that can reduce the legal obstacles women entrepreneurs and women-owned micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) face and help ensure that they can fully benefit from trade opportunities, including engaging in international trade. In this respect, UNCITRAL work on access to credit can play a key role. It provides for inclusive and non-discriminatory standards that draw on the best practices and legal principles of the world's various economic and legal systems.

This side event will focus on women entrepreneurs and the many MSMEs owned by women and how gender-responsive measures can support them. This will also help us understand how UNCITRAL texts facilitating access to credit can contribute to close the gender finance gap.

Speakers:

Ms Anna Joubin-Bret, the Secretary of UNCITRAL and Director, International Trade Law Division, U.N. Office of Legal Affairs (OLA)

Ms. Carmen Schuber, Gender Expert, Unit for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, UNIDO

Dr. Adela Llatja, Gender Focal Person Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Albania

Ms. Claudia Guevara, Minister, Deputy Head of Mission and Gender Focal Point, International Gender Champions, Vienna Hub, Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations (Vienna)

Ms. Monica Canafoglia, Legal Officer, International Trade Law Division, U.N. Office of Legal Affairs (OLA)

Meeting accessible on Teams

Meeting ID: 336 953 711 835
Passcode: UegW3N

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AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS

