

Reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement - UNCITRAL

Establishment of an advisory centre

Webinar on 21 April 2020, 2 to 4 pm (CET), at <http://bit.ly/webinar-advisory>

The UNCITRAL Secretariat and the Academic Forum are organizing a webinar on the establishment of an advisory centre with a focus on the potential scope of services and beneficiaries.

The webinar is open for participation to all UNCITRAL Working Group III member and observer States delegations as well as international organizations and non-governmental organizations with observer status. Please, connect on 21 April 2020, 2-4 pm (CET) at <http://bit.ly/webinar-advisory>.

Programme

1. Opening of the session (2-2.10pm)

Welcome remarks by Anna Joubin-Bret, Secretary, UNCITRAL and Malcolm Langford, Academic Forum

2. General overview of the reform agenda and advisory centre (2.10-2.30pm)

This first part of the webinar will recap the current status of the reform discussions in Working Group III and provide a brief overview of the reform option of the establishment of an advisory centre and its main aspects.

- Status of the reform discussions at Working Group III regarding the advisory centre, by Shane Spelliscy, Chairperson, Working Group III
- Presentation of the main aspects to be considered in the establishment of an advisory centre, by Karl P. Sauvart, Academic Forum member
- Summary of the scoping study prepared by the Columbia Centre for Sustainable Investment (CCSI) on behalf of the Government of the Netherlands by CCSI representative

3. Remarks by State delegations on the possible scope of services and beneficiaries, with general discussion (2.30-3.50pm)

In the second part of the webinar, State delegations will make comments on selected topics, including on possible services (assistance in organizing the defence, support during the proceedings including in the selection and appointment of arbitrators, general advisory services as well as capacity-building and sharing of best practices) and potential

beneficiaries (States and possibly small- and medium-sized enterprises); participants will have the opportunity to contribute questions and comments.

4. Conclusion (3.50-4pm)

Concluding remarks by Anna Joubin-Bret, Secretary, UNCITRAL

Background documents

The following documents contain information on the history and current status of the discussion on the establishment of an advisory centre in Working Group III and provide for a basis for the discussions. Further material can be found on the UNCITRAL website (https://uncitral.un.org/en/working_groups/3/investor-state).

- Document [A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.168](#), Note by the Secretariat on the establishment of an advisory centre
- Document [A/CN.9/1004](#), Report of Working Group III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform) on the work of its thirty-eighth session (Vienna, 14–18 October 2019)
- Academic Forum on ISDS [Concept Paper 2019/14](#), An Advisory Centre on International Investment Law: Key Features, Karl P. Sauvant
- Scoping Study under preparation by the Columbia Centre for Sustainable Investment (CCSI) on behalf of the Government of the Netherlands (forthcoming)