

**Permanent Mission of Austria**  
**to the United Nations in New York**

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**67th Session of the  
General Assembly**

**AGENDA ITEM 77**  
**Report of the United Nations Commission**  
**on International Trade Law**  
**on the work of its forty-fifth session**

**Statement by**  
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Mr. Chair,

Before discussing the Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fourth session held in Vienna from 25 June to 6 July 2012, we wish to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Chair of the Commission, Mr. Hrvoje Sikiric of Croatia, who very ably guided the Commission's work during the last session. We also sincerely thank the Secretariat of the Commission for its professional and efficient work under the able leadership of Mr. Renaud Sorieul.

Mr. Chair,

Let me briefly highlight the work UNCITRAL has accomplished this year.

Among the most important achievements was the formulation and adoption of the 2012 Recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules that had been revised in 2010. These updated recommendations will significantly enhance the efficiency of arbitration under the Rules.

Furthermore, UNCITRAL finalized and adopted a Guide to Enactment of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement.

We also want to commend the Commission for progress made in its work in the areas of arbitration and conciliation, online dispute resolution, electronic commerce, insolvency law and security interests.

We would also like to express our appreciation for the efforts of the UNCITRAL Secretariat with regard to UNCITRAL projects aimed at promoting the uniform and effective application of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards of 1958, including the establishment of a website containing information contributed by States on their legislative implementation of the Convention and the preparation of a guide on the Convention.

Mr. Chair,

Last week, the Sixth Committee discussed the topic of the Rule of law at the national and international levels, and three weeks ago the General Assembly held a high-level meeting on the rule of law.

UNCITRAL plays a key role in this regard. The Commission has an impressive more than 40-year track record of contributions to the strengthening of the rule of law in the field of international trade law. We believe that no other organization is better equipped to provide internationally acceptable model laws and rules in the field of commercial law, support for enactments of uniform commercial laws, and especially the much needed education and training.

We commend the contribution of UNCITRAL to the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels not only in the context of international trade, but also in the context of long-term development, conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction.

A regular dialogue with the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group through the Rule of Law Unit is therefore highly appropriate, and to keep abreast of progress made in the integration of the work of UNCITRAL into the United Nations joint rule of law activities. To that end, the biannual briefing by the Rule of Law Unit which was held during this year's session in New York, was of utmost importance.

My delegation would like to thank the Commission and its Secretariat for their efforts and reiterates its call to continue and further intensify the important work of UNCITRAL in this field.

Mr. Chair,

Before closing, I would like to inform other delegations that this year Austria will again serve as coordinator for the UNCITRAL resolutions. Two draft resolutions will be circulated to all Permanent Missions in the coming days:

First, the annual Omnibus Resolution on the Report of UNCITRAL; second, a draft resolution on the 2012 Recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules as revised in 2010.

Delegations wishing to co-sponsor the Omnibus Resolution are kindly requested to sign their names on the list at the Austrian desk. As in the past, the other resolution will be submitted by the Bureau (no co-sponsoring).

Mr. Chair,

Let me conclude by stressing that Austria continues to attach the highest importance to the work of UNCITRAL. We will continue to support the Commission and its Vienna-based Secretariat and look forward to contributing actively to their work.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.