

76th Session of the General Assembly

Sixth Committee

**Agenda Item 78: Report of the United Nations Commission on International
Trade Law on the work of its fifty-fourth session**

Statement by Mr. Maximilian Gorke

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New York, 18 October 2021

Madame Chair,

My delegation fully aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union and I would like to convey the following remarks in our national capacity.

I wish to express Austria's appreciation to the Chair of the 54th session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, Philbert Abaka Johnson of Ghana, who guided the Commission's work in these still challenging circumstances. We also sincerely thank the Secretariat of the Commission, based in Vienna, Austria, for its professional and efficient work as well as its tireless efforts to advance the Commission's work to the extent possible despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In light of my country's commitment to international law and the rule of law, it is a source of great pride to host the Commission and its Secretariat in Vienna. My delegation very much values and commends the Commission for its work in the past session.

This year, the Commission adopted the Legislative Guide on Limited Liability Enterprises and the Legislative Recommendations on Insolvency of Micro and Small Enterprises. In addition to that the Commission finalized and adopted the UNCITRAL Mediation rules as well as the UNCITRAL Arbitration rules. Austria also notes with interest the decisions of the Commission with regard to progress of preparatory work in the areas of warehouse receipts and legal issues related to the digital economy. As a host country Austria closely follows the Commission's recommendation to increase the membership of the Commission from 60 to 70 states. We welcome the future consideration by the UNCITRAL Commission on the facilitation of climate change mitigation in the implementation of existing and new texts.

Having in mind the important work done by Working Group III on the Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform Austria supports the UNCITRAL Commission's recommendation to the General Assembly to allocate additional conference and supporting resources to the secretariat from 2022 to 2025.

Madame Chair,

Austria is very pleased to again serve as coordinator for the UNCITRAL resolutions in the 6th Committee – besides the Omnibus resolutions three additional resolutions on Mediation Rules, Expedited Arbitration Rules and Enlargement – which we are coordinating together with Japan. This year's draft Omnibus resolution on this agenda item has been circulated to Member States on October 8th and is based on last year's Omnibus resolution (A/RES/75/133) with updates from the report of the Commission and the recommendation to allocate one additional one-week session per year to Working Group III.

Informal consultations have taken place last week and based on the consultations with Member States, I am hopeful that the 6th Committee will soon be in a position to agree on a draft text for this resolution. I encourage delegations to cosponsor the resolution to show their support for the valuable work of UNCITRAL and I would like to thank those that have already done so.

I thank you.