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UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SIXTH COMMITTEE, UNGA76, AGENDA ITEM 80

Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

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Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom would like to express its gratitude and appreciation to the Chair of the Commission, the Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur for their ongoing work to promote the development of a legal framework to facilitate international trade law and investments. In particular, we would like to thank the Commission Secretariat for its excellent work in preparing for and facilitating the session.

We commend the International Trade Law Division of the UN Office of Legal Affairs for continuing to progress UNCITRAL's important work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Enlargement of the membership of UNCITRAL

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom was pleased to participate in the consultations on the enlargement of UNCITRAL membership and welcomes the draft resolution on this issue agreed at the fifty-fourth Commission session.

The United Kingdom commends Japan for its leadership on this initiative and would like to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honourable delegate from Japan, Mr Takashima, for facilitating these extensive discussions over the course of two years, and for his dedication to consensus-based decision-making.

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Working Group I

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom continues to support the work and progress made by Working Group I to support micro small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) and access to credit.

The United Kingdom looks forward to the continued consideration of issues on this topic.

Working Group II

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom was pleased to participate in the discussions on the draft decision for the Mediation Rules and the draft decisions for the Notes on Mediation and Guide to Enactment of the Model Law. United Kingdom participation in the Singapore Convention on Mediation is still being considered.

Working Group III

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom would like to express its gratitude to the Commission Secretariat for its work facilitating discussions in Working Group III, on progressing the possible reform of InvestorState Dispute Settlement. We were pleased to participate in the Working Group's 40th session and look forward to the Working Group's 41st session in November.

The United Kingdom welcomes and is grateful for the Secretariat's continued support in considering the views of stakeholders. We appreciate the Secretariat's adaptable approach when incorporating new changes and revisions. We continue to support such engagement, including with the business community.

We value UNCITRAL's ability to be flexible during the COVID-19 pandemic, when bringing together a wide variety of stakeholders in Working Group III to ensure progress continues. The United Kingdom supports the Commission's commitment to developing international investment law and business rules. We look forward to continued discussions on this topic.

Working Group IV

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom continues to support the work and progress made by Working Group IV in its development of an international instrument for cross border recognition of Identity Management and Trust services.

The United Kingdom looks forward to the continued consideration of issues on this topic.

Working Group V

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom was pleased to participate in the 58th session of Working Group V on insolvency law. We note the Commission's adoption, at its 54th session this year, of the Legislative Recommendations arising from the Working Group's deliberations on the insolvency of micro and small entities, and we look forward to reviewing the draft commentary to the Recommendations at the Working Group's upcoming 59th session.

The United Kingdom also welcomes the Commission's referral of the topics of civil asset tracing and recovery, and applicable law in insolvency proceedings, to the Working Group for its consideration.

Working Group VI

Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom welcomes the progress made by Working Group VI on the development of an international instrument relating to the judicial sale of ships.

The United Kingdom remains committed to discussions and in reaching a successful outcome on this subject.

Conclusion

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In conclusion, the United Kingdom remains committed to the work of UNCITRAL.

Thank you, Madame Chair.