



**Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States**

**By**

**Mr. Thomas Ramopoulos, First Secretary, Delegation of the European  
Union to the United Nations**

**at the Sixth Committee**

**on the Agenda item 76:**

**"Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on  
the work of its fifty-fifth session"**

**United Nations**

**New York**

**17 October 2022**

**– CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY –**

Mr./Madam Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries North Macedonia\*, Montenegro\* and the Republic of Moldova, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Georgia align themselves with this statement.

We thank UNCITRAL for the report covering the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

The European Union and its Member States welcome the adoption of a Model Law on the Use and Cross-border Recognition of Identity Management and Trust Services by UNCITRAL. The new Model Law is a global standard, which takes into account existing EU legislation in the field, and will facilitate and enhance cross-border e-commerce. We also look forward to the future work of Working Group IV on the use of artificial intelligence and automation in contracting.

As regards the draft convention on the international effects of judicial sales of ships, we were actively involved in its negotiation and support its objectives. We recommend that the General Assembly adopts the draft convention as approved by UNCITRAL and we hope that the signing ceremony is authorised to be held as soon as feasible in 2023.

The European Union and its Member States would like to take this opportunity to stress once again the importance of the work of Working Group III on reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS). We continue to believe strongly that, where dispute resolution involves public matters, a standing body and a multilateral approach – in the form of a multilateral investment court – are best suited to effectively address all the issues identified by Working Group III with respect to ISDS.

In this regard, we welcome that the additional one-week session and supporting resources, which have been allocated to Working Group III as of this year, are being used effectively. It is evident that these additional resources and time are necessary to ensure that meaningful progress is made by the Working Group.

The European Union and its Member States place particular importance in the advancement and conclusion by the Working Group of its discussions on the draft code of conduct for adjudicators and its text on alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (ADR) and dispute prevention as soon as possible, to enable the Working Group to present these texts to the Commission at its next session. This will further allow the Working Group to make progress on other topics, in particular on structural reform of ISDS, and especially on the creation of a permanent standing body and an Advisory Centre for investment disputes. We welcome the work done on these topics in 2022 and look forward to further progress by the Working Group in 2023.

---

\* North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

Considering the significant advantages that UNCITRAL presents in terms of transparency, openness and accessibility, we encourage all countries, international organisations and observers to actively take part in the discussions. In this regard, in 2022 the European Union and France have continued to contribute to the UNCITRAL Travel Fund to seek to ensure that the process in Working Group III is as genuinely inclusive as possible. The European Union encourages other actors to make similar contributions. The European Union and its Member States continue to hope that, with the active engagement of all delegations and interested organisations, the discussions will deliver a satisfactory outcome as soon as possible.

Thank you.