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UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

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Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade

Law on the work of its fifty-fifth session

Agenda item 75

17 OCTOBER 2022

Delivered by Melina Lito

(check against delivery)

Introduction

Mr Chairman / 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, and to express our gratitude for facilitating the return to in-person discussions.

Working Group I

Mr Chairman / Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom continues to follow closely the work and progress made by Working Group I to support Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs).

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

Working Group II

We have continued to follow with interest Working Group II's consideration of issues in the field of Dispute Settlement.

The United Kingdom is also giving careful consideration as to whether it should sign and ratify the Singapore Convention on Mediation. A public consultation was conducted in the spring of this year, and we will be deciding on our position soon.

Working Group III

Mr Chairman / Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom was pleased to participate in the 43rd session of Working Group III in September in Vienna.

We welcome the good progress that has been made across reform options and we look forward to the Commission considering for adoption the first reforms from the Working Group, including a Code of Conduct for Arbitrators, at its 56th Session.

As we look ahead to the 44th session of the Working Group in January, we hope to maintain strong momentum across the work

programme and to continue hearing the views of stakeholders, including from those within the business community.

Working Group IV

The United Kingdom was pleased to participate in the Commission's fifty-fifth session in New York where the draft model law on the use and cross-border recognition of identity management and trust services was considered.

We note the Commission's adoption of the Model Law text at that session and the in-principle approval to the draft explanatory note to the model law prepared by the secretariat.

We look forward to the Working Group reviewing the finalised explanatory note that reflects the Commission's deliberations and decisions at the Working Group's forthcoming sixty-fourth session.

The United Kingdom also welcomes the Working Group's continued consideration on the use of artificial intelligence and automation in contracting and supports the approach to future work on the topic.

Working Group V

Mr Chairman / Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom was pleased to contribute to the Commission's work on, and the finalisation of, a legislative guide on insolvency law for micro- and small enterprises, at the 59th session of Working Group V on insolvency law.

We continue to support the work and progress made by Working Group V in relation to the topics of civil asset tracing and recovery in insolvency proceedings, and applicable law in insolvency proceedings.

Working Group VI

Mr Chairman / Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom was pleased to participate in the Commission's 55th session on the development of an international instrument relating to the judicial sale of ships.

The United Kingdom also welcomes the outcome of that session and the Commission's submission of a draft convention to the General Assembly with the recommendation of adoption. We look forward to a successful conclusion.

Conclusion

Mr Chairman / Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom remains committed to the work of UNCITRAL and looks forward to continuing its work with the Commission.

Thank you, Mr Chairman / Madame Chair.