



Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

By

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

at the Sixth Committee

on the Agenda item 78:

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

United Nations

New York

20 October 2025

– 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*, Serbia*, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and Bosnia and Herzegovina* themselves with this statement.

We would like to thank UNCITRAL for the report covering the fifty-eighth session of the Commission. We note with satisfaction that like previous sessions, the last one was also very productive with a number of important developments.

The European Union and its Member States support the elaboration of multilateral instruments, which promote trade by providing a stable international legal framework. With that in mind, on 25 September 2025, the European Union submitted its instrument of approval of the Mauritius Convention on Transparency. The **Mauritius Convention on Transparency** provides a framework for greater public access to documents and hearings as well as the inclusion of civil society in disputes brought by investors against States under investment treaties. We strongly encourage States that have not done so yet, to become parties to this Convention to increase its reach and efficiency.

Mr./Madam Chair,

With regard to **Working Group IV**, we recall the previously successful adoption of the **Model Law on Automated Contracting**. Looking forward, the European Union and its Member States will continue to actively contribute to the ongoing work of Working Group IV, specifically that **on data provision contracts**. The development of rules in this field should bring legal certainty for contracts whose object and purpose is the provision of data, while facilitating data driven innovation. It is important to ensure that the rules are clear, future proof and suitable for various business models of data provision, including for SMEs.

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

The EU and its Member States welcome the progress made in **Working Group V**, in particular the adoption of the UNCITRAL Toolkit and Background Notes on Asset Tracing and Recovery in Insolvency Proceedings. We would further like to reiterate our full support towards the adoption of global rules on applicable law in cross-border insolvency proceedings. With this aim, we will continue engaging constructively in this project.

Turning to the work of **Working Group III**, the European Union and its Member States would like to underline the importance of continuing to make progress in the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) reform. While the Working Group has already delivered on several reforms, such as the adoption of a Code of conduct for arbitrators as well as the development of a statute of an Advisory Centre on international investment disputes for least-developed and developing countries, it now has to deliver on very important aspects: the establishment of a standing mechanism, including first instance and appellate tribunals, draft provisions on procedural and cross-cutting issues, and the multilateral instrument to implement the reforms. In that regard, the EU and its Member States are very satisfied with the last session of the Working Group in September, where delegations agreed on key issues concerning the design and structure of a standing mechanism.

The EU and its Member States will also continue to engage in intersessional meetings of Working Group III. We would like to express our satisfaction with the organisation of inter-sessional meetings, also available for online participation, giving delegates a unique occasion to engage and exchange ideas on the reforms and work programme of Working Group III and provide “food for thought” for future sessions. The 9th intersessional meeting of Working Group III will take place in Chile in November, permitting delegates to discuss issues such as damages calculation or the right to regulate, which are very important for States. The EU and its Member States also continue to participate in the operationalisation process of the Advisory Centre, with the next meeting taking place on 1-3 December and hosted by France, in Paris, where the last details regarding the Centre can hopefully be finalised.

This significant progress shows that the additional one-week session and supporting resources, allocated to Working Group III as of 2022, have been used effectively. The progress is noteworthy all the more given the ambitious agenda

of the Working Group and the highly technical matters being discussed that often involve sensitive policy decisions. In light thereof, the EU and its Member States are very supportive of the additional request for resources presented by the UNCITRAL Secretariat and adopted by the UNCITRAL Commission last July. The fact that this request was broadly supported by the Working Group is a clear demonstration that delegations recognise the importance of keeping the additional one-week session and giving sufficient resources to the UNCITRAL Secretariat to continue supporting our work until we deliver on all reforms. The more resources we use, including the additional one-week session, the quicker we will complete our work on these reforms to the benefits of all States. It is therefore essential that this request for additional resources is endorsed by the UN General Assembly. We urge all delegations to support the request for additional resources.

The EU and its Member States are further doing their part in contributing financially to this process. With the aim to maintain the inclusive nature of the work of Working Group III, the European Union, France and Germany continued to contribute to the UNCITRAL Travel Fund. We strongly encourage other actors to do the same. The broadest possible participation and engagement of all delegations and interested organisations enriches discussions on the reform bringing us closer to a satisfactory outcome as soon as possible. The European Union will renew its contribution to the Travel Fund for the next three years.

In the same vein, the European Union and Germany continued to make voluntary contributions funding the operation of the Transparency Registry and the promotion of the UNCITRAL transparency standards. The European Union renewed its contribution for the operation of the Transparency Registry until the end of 2027 and is also financially contributing to the efforts of the Secretariat in promoting the implementation of the ISDS reforms that have been adopted and will be adopted. We encourage other actors to also support this common project of ours with their voluntary contributions.

Turning to the **working methods of UNCITRAL**, the EU and its Member States express their appreciation for the progress achieved throughout the intersessional consultative process having streamlined the text of future UNCITRAL omnibus resolutions.

Mr./Madam Chair,

UNCITRAL is an example of how multilateral cooperation can be effective delivering tangible results. Building on our strong history of cooperation with the Commission, the European Union and its Member States will continue engaging constructively in its work toward the progressive harmonisation and modernisation of international trade law.

Thank you.