



General Assembly

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Relevant General Assembly resolutions

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its fiftieth session, in 2017, the Commission requested the Secretariat to replace an oral report by the Secretariat to the Commission on relevant General Assembly resolutions with a written report to be issued before the session.¹ Pursuant to that request, the Secretariat submits the present note summarizing the content of operative paragraphs of General Assembly resolution [75/133](#) on the report of UNCITRAL on the work of its fifty-third session. The resolution was adopted by the General Assembly on 20 November 2020 on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee ([A/75/424](#)).
2. By paragraphs 2 of **resolution 75/133**, the General Assembly commended the secretariat of the Commission for the completion of the Legal Guide to Uniform Legal Instruments in the Area of International Commercial Contracts (with a focus on sales). By paragraph 3 of the same resolution, the General Assembly welcomed the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (Singapore Convention on Mediation) and invited Governments and regional economic integration organizations to consider becoming a party to the Convention.
3. Provisions on the funding and continued operation of the transparency repository remained substantively the same as in the resolution of the last year (paras. 4 and 5).
4. By other paragraphs of that resolution, the General Assembly took note of progress made by UNCITRAL in all areas of its legislative and non-legislative work (including coordination, cooperation and technical assistance activities, CLOUT, digests and the UNCITRAL website) and plans for future legislative work (paras. 6–12, and 30–32).
5. The General Assembly recalled the importance of adherence to the rules of procedure and methods of work of the Commission and relevant requests to the Secretariat (para. 13) and commended the Commission for the temporal adjustments made in the methods of work of the Commission in order to advance its work to the extent possible in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, which demonstrated the

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/72/17)*, para. 480.



adaptability and resilience of the Commission and its secretariat in such exceptional circumstances as well as the fruitful efforts to preserve transparency, inclusiveness, flexibility, multilingualism, effectiveness and equality in carrying out its work (para. 14).

6. As usual, the General Assembly recognized and endorsed the role, efforts and initiatives of the Commission aimed at increasing coordination in the field of international trade law (para. 11), providing technical cooperation and assistance to States with international trade law reform, particularly the organization of the “UNCITRAL LAC Days” (para. 12), promoting the rule of law and implementing the international development agenda (paras. 19–23). It appealed to all relevant stakeholders to support the Commission in those efforts and initiatives, including by making voluntary contributions to the UNCITRAL Trust Fund for Symposia and to the Trust Fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of UNCITRAL to attend sessions of the Commission and its working groups (paras. 11, 12, 16 and 17).

7. The General Assembly welcomed the activities of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Korea and China whose contributions enabled continuing operation of the Regional Centre, welcomed expressions of interest from other States in hosting regional centres of the Commission and requested the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the establishment of regional centres, in particular their funding and budgetary situation (para. 15).

8. The General Assembly noted the progress made on the proposal for the enlargement of the membership of the Commission through intersessional consultations organized by Japan and that the Commission encouraged its member States to consult with each other and other interested States on the proposal during the intersessional period and requested the Secretariat to continue to facilitate those intersessional consultations (para. 18).

9. The General Assembly commended the Commission for holding a series of online panels to discuss the connection between the work of the Commission and the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, noted that several legislative tools developed by the Commission can play an important role in assisting States in mitigating the effects of the measures required to control the pandemic, as well as in their economic recovery efforts and also commended the Commission for inviting States to consider adopting UNCITRAL instruments capable of mitigating the disruption of international trade and business caused by necessary response measures to the COVID-19 pandemic and appealed to Governments to adopt such UNCITRAL instruments, as appropriate (paras. 28–29).

10. The General Assembly recalled relevant requests to the Secretariat as regards the length of Commission documentation (para. 24) and continued publication of Commission standards and provision of summary records (para. 25). It also recalled its decision on the rotation scheme of meetings between New York and Vienna (para. 26).

11. The General Assembly stressed the importance of promoting UNCITRAL texts and to this end urged States to use them (para. 27).

12. **The Commission may wish to take note of that resolution.**
