



General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 February 2024

Original: English

United Nations Commission on
International Trade Law
Fifty-seventh session
New York, 24 June–12 July 2024

Non-legislative activities

Resources and funding

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction.	2
II. Resources and funding	2
A. Trust fund for UNCITRAL symposiums	2
B. Trust fund to grant travel assistance to developing countries that are members of UNCITRAL	3
III. Proposed action by the Commission	3



I. Introduction

1. This note provides information on resources and funding for non-legislative activities. The reporting period of this note is from 1 January to 31 December 2023.

II. Resources and funding

2. Non-legislative activities of the UNCITRAL secretariat are resource-intensive. Meeting the demand for them exceeds the financial and human resources available through the regular budget allocated to UNCITRAL and its secretariat. This insufficiency requires the secretariat to raise extrabudgetary resources to provide for the delivery of several non-legislative activities, such as technical assistance and capacity-building with the use of UNCITRAL texts in developing countries.¹ The extrabudgetary resources take different forms, such as: in-kind contributions (e.g. to support and fund travel); voluntary contributions to UNCITRAL trust funds (see below); and provision of junior professional officers by States.

3. The secretariat seeks to maximize efficiency in the delivery of its non-legislative activities, including through the enhanced UNCITRAL's online presence (see [A/CN.9/1174/Add.5](#)). However, the increased demand for those activities, costs of maintaining and upgrading the UNCITRAL's online presence and the need to acquire associated expertise and skills necessitate the constant flow of additional extrabudgetary resources.

A. Trust fund for UNCITRAL symposiums

4. The trust fund for UNCITRAL symposiums, among others, finances several non-legislative activities of the UNCITRAL secretariat, such as the participation of UNCITRAL staff or other experts at seminars and other events that consider commercial law reform needs and the adoption and use of UNCITRAL texts.

5. During the year 2023, the following additional funds were received to that trust fund in support of non-legislative activities:

(a) US\$ 171,849 from the Government of China under a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations;²

(b) US\$ 52,525 under an agreement with the Government of France and US\$ 67,849 under a contribution agreement with the European Union, both in support of research, travel and other legislative and non-legislative activities related to the current work of UNCITRAL Working Group III on investor-State dispute settlement reform (ISDS);

(c) US\$ 40,000 from the Government of Indonesia; and

(d) US\$ 168,703 from the European Union under a contribution agreement to support the operation of the transparency repository.³

(A contribution received in 2023 to the trust fund in support of stocktaking of developments in dispute resolution in the digital economy (DRDE) is reported to the Commission separately.)

¹ For a discussion of the need for such funding, and approaches to secure it, see [A/CN.9/980/Rev.1](#), paras. 74–87.

² For details of the partnership with China, see [A/CN.9/1174/Add.1](#).

³ For details of the project, see [A/CN.9/1174/Add.4](#).

B. Trust fund to grant travel assistance to developing countries that are members of UNCITRAL

6. The trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of UNCITRAL, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, is open to voluntary financial contributions from Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals. The provision of that assistance increases expert representation from developing countries at UNCITRAL sessions, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in those countries to put in place a regulatory and enabling environment for business, trade and investment.

7. During the year 2023, the following additional funds were received to the trust fund: US\$ 2,206 from the Government of Austria (see also under para. 5 (b) above for the Government of France's and the European Union's contributions to the trust fund for UNCITRAL symposiums that are also used to provide travel assistance to developing countries to attend sessions of UNCITRAL Working Group III (ISDS reform)).

III. Proposed action by the Commission

8. The Commission may wish to express appreciation to all contributors of extrabudgetary resources. It may also wish to renew its appeal to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust funds mentioned above, in particular in the form of multi-year contributions that would enable and enhance the secretariat's ability to strategically plan non-legislative activities to meet the increased demand for them. It may also wish to renew its call to all relevant stakeholders for the financing of special projects and otherwise to assist the secretariat in carrying out its non-legislative activities, in particular technical assistance and capacity-building with the use of UNCITRAL texts in developing countries.
