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Technical cooperation and assistance

Note by the Secretariat

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I. Introduction

1. This note addresses the main technical cooperation and assistance activities of the Secretariat from 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2023 (the reporting period).
2. Other Notes by the Secretariat cover related technical cooperation and assistance activities: UNCITRAL Regional Presence – Activities of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RCAP), [A/CN.9/1137](#); Status of conventions, model laws and operation of the Transparency Registry, [A/CN.9/1136](#); Overviews of Secretariat activities to support the adoption, use and uniform interpretation of UNCITRAL texts in the reporting period are found in [A/CN.9/1139](#) (Vienna-led activities) and [A/CN.9/1137](#) (RCAP-led activities). Unofficial reports of the Secretariat on the UNCITRAL Days in the Asia Pacific region, in the Latin American and Caribbean regions, and in Africa, are available on the Commission's website under the documents of the fifty-sixth session (in English only).

II. Key technical cooperation and assistance activities undertaken by the Secretariat in the reporting period

3. The Secretariat's technical cooperation and assistance activities are grouped into three areas:
 - (a) Raising awareness and promoting effective understanding, adoption and use of UNCITRAL texts;
 - (b) Providing advice and assistance to States on adoption and use of those texts (such as through a review of draft legislation); and
 - (c) Building capacity to support their effective use, implementation and uniform interpretation (such as through training activities for judges and legal practitioners).¹

A. Partnerships and regional and other initiatives

4. The Secretariat has continued to deliver technical cooperation and assistance in collaboration with institutional partners under both formal and other forms of partnerships, as follows.

1. Formal Partnerships with States and Governments

Singapore

5. Under an MOU with the Government of the Republic of Singapore dated 7 August 2019, the 2022 edition of the UNCITRAL Academy was held over three days during, and as an integral part of the Singapore Convention Week 2022, a week-long series of legal and dispute-resolution events held from 29 August to 2 September 2022 in Singapore.²
6. The UNCITRAL Academy comprised a conference and three capacity-building workshops that were jointly organized between the UNCITRAL secretariat, the

¹ For a more detailed description of the activities, and their objectives, strategy and approach, see Technical Cooperation and Assistance ([A/CN.9/980/Rev.1](#)), and a Guidance Note at www.uncitral.un.org/sites/uncitral.un.org/files/englishguidance_note.pdf. While the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions worldwide, in the reporting period, led to more activities taking place in person, a majority of the secretariat activities have continued to be held online or in a hybrid format, allowing participation of Secretariat staff in more events, and expanding the reach of the events.

² For more information on the Singapore Convention Week, see the official website for the event at www.singaporeconventionweek.sg. For details on the UNCITRAL Academy events, see the unofficial "Report on the UNCITRAL Academy 2022" available on the Commission's website under the fifty-sixth session documents.

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy, the Singapore International Mediation Centre and the Singapore Ministry of Law.

7. In total, the 2022 edition of the Singapore Convention Week brought together over 4,000 participants from more than 100 countries, representing the legal, business and government sectors.

China

8. Under an MOU dated 17 August 2019 with the Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM), and further to the work accomplished on the first series of UNCITRAL e-learning modules,³ a second series of e-learning modules was made available in English:

(a) On Public Procurement and Public-Private Partnerships, in the fourth quarter of 2022;

(b) On the Mediation Framework, in the fourth quarter of 2022; and

(c) On International Commercial Arbitration, in the first quarter of 2023.

9. These new e-modules aim to provide substantive training on UNCITRAL texts, addressing: (i) the main objectives of the relevant text; (ii) how the provisions in the text are designed to achieve those objectives; (iii) key policy choices, considerations and options reflected in the text; and (iv) issues of enactment and use, ensuring uniform interpretation.⁴

10. Work is ongoing on a Chinese version of the second series of e-modules, which should be available by the end of 2023.

11. The development of a further series of e-modules is also currently being considered, resources allowing, which would cover the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods ("CISG"), electronic commerce, and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

12. Four additional activities have been co-organized by UNCITRAL and MOFCOM in collaboration with Chinese domestic institutions, to raise awareness of UNCITRAL texts in prioritized areas:

(a) An International Colloquium on PPP Best Practices, co-organized with the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing (hybrid, 17–18 November 2022);

(b) A Forum on Digital Economy and International Rule of Law, co-organized with Zhejiang University in Hangzhou (hybrid, 24–25 November 2022);

(c) An International Colloquium on Exploring the Negotiability of Railway Consignment Notes and Other Cargo Documents, co-organized with the Chongqing Municipal Commission of Commerce, in Chongqing (hybrid, 10 January 2023); and

(d) "The Digital Economy: Legal Regulation of Identification and Artificial Intelligence Application", a forum co-organized with Jinan University, in Guangzhou (online, 16–17 January 2023).

Hong Kong, China

13. Under an MOU dated 17 August 2019 with the Department of Justice of the Government of Hong Kong, China, the Secretariat took part in the Hong Kong 2022 Legal Week: (i) as a speaker at the Asia-Pacific Private International Law Summit (7 November 2022), and (ii) at the Workshop on ASEAN Online Dispute Resolution (9 November 2022).⁵

³ See [A/CN.9/1058](#), paras. 10–12 and [A/CN.9/1099](#), para. 7.

⁴ All modules are accessible through the UNCITRAL website; and on the website of ITC ILO.

⁵ ASEAN is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Website: www.asean.org.

14. The Secretariat continues to seek collaboration with the Inclusive Global Legal Innovation Platform on Online Dispute Resolution (iGLIP on ODR) as part of its work on dispute resolution in the digital economy, in the context of this partnership.

15. A delegation headed by the Deputy Secretary of Justice visited the Secretariat on 7 March 2023, to discuss the MOU's implementation as well as ongoing and future activities and events.

Saudi Arabia

16. Under an MOU with the Ministry of Commerce and the National Competitiveness Center (NCC) of Saudi Arabia dated 19 May 2020, the Secretariat:

(a) Provided advice and assistance:

(i) On a draft law on mediation;

(ii) On draft rules on cross-border insolvency for Saudi Arabia, which were issued on 16 December 2022 and the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (MLCBI);

(iii) On commercial law drafting techniques and commercial law reform methodology; and

(iv) On the draft e-transactions law.

(b) Delivered presentations at the following events on issues relevant to UNCITRAL texts on e-commerce, micro- and small enterprises (MSEs) and mediation:

(i) "Overview of matters relevant for Digital Economy Law and their interrelation" (online, 6 October 2022);

(ii) "Digital Economy & Innovation", NCC, Ministry of Commerce, U.S. Chambers of Commerce in Washington, (Washington D.C., 16 June 2022);

(iii) "Saudi Arabia Competitiveness Roundtable", Legislative & Judicial Reforms Overview (New York, 8 February 2023);

(iv) "Trade in Commercial Mediation Workshop", (side-event to the seventy-seventh session of UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) (New York, 7 February 2023); and

(v) Biban 2023, "Fostering Tangible Opportunities for MSEs" (Riyadh, 9–10 March 2023).⁶

(c) Provided capacity-building to the judiciary on the management of alternative dispute resolution matters by courts in Saudi Arabia (Riyadh, 27–28 December 2022).

17. As reported in [A/CN.9/1139](#), for the first time, cases from Saudi Arabia were included in the CLOUT database in the reporting period.

2. Other Partnerships and Joint Initiatives, including activities involving regional organizations

18. In addition to its formal partnerships with governments, the Secretariat has continued to conduct joint activities and initiatives with the following organizations and institutions. While it is not possible to identify all institutions with which the

⁶ Biban is Saudi Arabia's annual forum for SMEs and entrepreneurship. Organized by the Saudi Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority (Monshaat), the National Competitiveness Centre (NCC), and the Saudi Ministry of Commerce, the forum took place in March 2023 in Riyadh.

Secretariat has conducted activities in this reporting period, some as a result of a long-standing relationship, the following may be useful to note:

(a) With the World Bank Group, on projects related to sustainable economic development, arbitration and dispute resolution, and capacity building in the field of commercial law including insolvency law;⁷

(b) With the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), to enhance the legislative framework for e-commerce and digital economy in the francophone area through joint promotion and capacity-building on UNCITRAL texts in OIF member States:

Among key events in this partnership, the Secretariat participated in the annual meeting of the *Réseau francophone de diffusion du droit* (RF2D), an initiative supported by OIF, to present CLOUT and other resources available in the French language on the UNCITRAL website. The meeting was held in Niamey (online, 5 August 2022);⁸

(c) With the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), in particular its Economic Committee, before which the Secretariat maintains Observer status until 2025:

In this regard, the Secretariat continued to update the Investment Experts Group (IEG) on progress being made by Working Group III on reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement, in August 2022 and February 2023;

(d) With the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA),⁹ to raise awareness and promote effective understanding, adoption and use of the work of UNCITRAL and its texts in OHADA member States, and further, to promote coordination of harmonization efforts at the regional level on electronic transactions:

Among key events in this partnership, the UNCITRAL secretariat invited representatives of the Permanent Secretariat of OHADA in two events of the UNCITRAL Days in Africa at the University of Dschang in Western Cameroon, in December 2022, to discuss OHADA's work on reforms on insolvency law and e-commerce;

(e) With the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), to support the use of UNCITRAL texts as a tool for implementing provisions on electronic commerce and paperless trade in regional and bilateral trade agreements;¹⁰

(f) With the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) and specifically on the GIZ project in the Western Balkans running from January 2022 to December 2024, entitled: "Strengthening Prevention and Management of Investor-State-Disputes". The project includes:

(i) Building capacity to adopt dispute prevention and mitigation mechanisms, with reference to the UNCITRAL instruments developed in this area;

⁷ Including through a Judicial Capacity-Building Partnership in Insolvency, and a Joint Network for Coordinating and Supporting Secured Transactions Reform. On the Joint Network, see II B.8, para. 37 and footnote 32 below.

⁸ As previously noted (See, for example, A/CN.9/1099, para. 24), OIF also supports inclusivity in the work of Working Group III through coordinating among francophone delegations to that Working Group.

⁹ OHADA is a regional organization comprised of mostly West African francophone countries, whose mission is to guarantee legal and judicial security for investors and companies in its member States. Website: <https://www.ohada.org/>.

¹⁰ On the collaboration between UNCITRAL and ESCAP, see www.uncitral.un.org/en/texts/ecommerce.

(ii) Supporting the Western Balkan countries in adopting the UNCITRAL Mediation framework, and considering the ratification of the Singapore Convention; and

(iii) Fostering participation of the Western Balkan countries in Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform.¹¹

(g) With the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC ILO), in the production of the e-learning modules related to UNCITRAL, which are made accessible on the ITC ILO e-Campus distance learning platform in addition to UNCITRAL's own website:

In the framework of the cooperation with ITC ILO, and in partnership with the University of Turin, the UNCITRAL secretariat delivered lectures at the Master of Laws in International Trade Law 2021–2022 Edition (Turin, Italy, 27 May 2022), and the 16th Edition of the Master's in Public Procurement Management for Sustainable Development (Turin, Italy, 26 May 2022; and online, 2 June 2022);

Moreover, a lecture was delivered at the Master's in Public Procurement Management for Sustainable Development, on the UNCITRAL PPP instruments, with a focus on project planning and preparation as key for sustainability (online, 6 June 2022).

B. Technical cooperation and assistance activities by subject-area

1. Dispute settlement

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9, 16 and 17

19. The Secretariat jointly organized, participated in, or contributed to the following events to promote the adoption and use of UNCITRAL texts in the field of dispute settlement:¹²

(a) Introductory remarks to the event “The AAIC Arbitration Rules 2021: The Vis and Beyond”, including a presentation of the UNCITRAL dispute resolution frameworks (arbitration and mediation) (Vienna, 8 April 2022);

(b) “Mercosur Arbitration and Mediation Week”, organized by the Secretary of the Mercosur Permanent Tribunal for legal practitioners in the Mercosur region (presentation on UNCITRAL texts on international arbitration and mediation, including on ongoing legislative work) (Asuncion, 16-20 May 2022);

(c) A presentation on the ISDS Reform, including on the Transparency Standards, delivered during the Francophone meeting on Investor-State Dispute Settlement in Africa jointly organized with the OIF, for African delegates to WG III and other African government officials (Accra, 24–26 May 2022);

(d) APEC Workshop on modernizing secured transactions legal regimes in APEC economies through international instruments and effective dispute resolution mechanism, Tokyo (25-27 May 2022);

(e) “UNCITRAL Dispute Resolution tools, a brief overview”, United Nations Development Account (UNDA) COVID-19 Project, Closing event on Transport and Trade Connectivity in the Age of Pandemics (online, 20–23 June 2022);

¹¹ On this project, see, from the GIZ Website: www.giz.de/en/downloads/giz2022-en-legal-reform-for-economic-development.pdf.

¹² For additional activities in dispute settlement led by RCAP, see A/CN.9/1137. See also, unofficial reports on the UNCITRAL Days in the Asia Pacific region and in Africa (Commission website, under the documents of the fifty-sixth session), and Section II C below.

(f) Presentation on the Singapore Convention on Mediation and the role of UNCITRAL in the evolution of international commercial arbitration and mediation, at the University of Chile, Faculty of Law (Santiago, Chile, 16 August 2022);

(g) Online lecture on the UNCITRAL Mediation Framework at the Singapore Management University (as part of a course on International Mediation and Practice) (Singapore, 22 September 2022);

(h) Webinar on “Mediation and international arbitration”, organized by the Center on Mediation and Arbitration, Chamber of Commerce and Services (Managua, 23 September 2022);

(i) Round table and discussion on the UNCITRAL Transparency Standards and their reform, and the current status of the UNCITRAL Working Group III, at the ArbAUT Forum organized by Austrian Arbitration Association, in person (Vienna, 27 September 2022);

(j) Webinar on the “Role of Federal Courts Concerning International Arbitration and the New York Convention” (Baghdad, 18-19 November 2022);

(k) Virtual presentation on UNCITRAL generally, the UNCITRAL Mediation Framework and discussions on mediation within WG III and a written contribution relating to mediation at the *Universidad de Alcalá* in Madrid, Spain (16 December 2022);

(l) Virtual presentation of the UNCITRAL Mediation Framework, with emphasis on the Singapore Mediation Convention during the National Mediation Forum in Jordan (at the initiative of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) (11 January 2023);

(m) Opening remarks to the 13th Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot and presentation of the UNCITRAL internship programme to competing students (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 21 February 2023);

(n) Virtual presentation on the Recommendations to assist mediation centres and other interested bodies with regard to mediation under the UNCITRAL Mediation Rules 2021, for the Mercosur Tribunal (Asuncion, 13 March 2023).

20. UNCITRAL also contributed to a series of activities organized by Chinese domestic institutions with a focus on dispute settlement:

(a) The 2022 China Arbitration Summit in Beijing, co-organized by the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC), UNCITRAL and All China Lawyers Association (online, 6 September 2022);

(b) The Fourth Shanghai International Arbitration Summit, co-organized by Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Justice, the Shanghai Council for the Promotion of International Trade and the Shanghai Arbitration Association (Shanghai, hybrid, 9 November 2022);

(c) The Legal Forum on Promoting the Integration of Law and Business and Jointly Building the International Rule of Law, organized by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and the International Commercial Dispute Prevention and Settlement Organization (Beijing and Xiamen, hybrid, 15 November 2022);

(d) The Seventh International Mediation Summit, organized by CCPIT (Xiamen, 30–31 March 2023); and

(e) The Fifth International Commercial and Legal Cooperation Forum, organized by CCPIT (Changsha, hybrid, 23–24 March 2023).

21. The Secretariat provided advice towards, and assisted in, the enactment of UNCITRAL texts on arbitration and/or mediation in the following contexts:

(a) On the Model Law on International Commercial Mediation: Bahrain, Bahamas, Israel;

(b) On the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration: Iraq, Israel, Japan; and

(c) On the adaptation of the UNCITRAL Mediation Rules to the institutional context: several arbitration centres in Asia and the Pacific and Latin America.

2. Electronic commerce

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5, 8, 9 and 16

22. The Secretariat continued providing support towards the adoption, implementation and uniform interpretation of UNCITRAL e-commerce texts, with focus on promoting the adoption of the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records (MLETR) in response to demands from stakeholders. Activities included participation in the following events:

(a) Following a previous event held with the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and the Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du droit des affaires (OHADA),¹³ the Secretariat, in cooperation with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), ICC Benin and ICC Togo, organized a webinar on the digitization of commercial documents to raise awareness within the private sector of the benefits offered by the enactment of the MLETR (Cotonou and Lomé, online, 5 May 2022);

(b) The event of 5 May 2022 above was followed by an in-depth presentation of the MLETR to the authorities in charge of digitization policy in Benin (also with OIF and OHADA, online, 20 October 2022);

(c) 2022 FIATA HQ Meeting: Advisory Body on Legal Matters panel on "Legal Aspects of the Use of Electronic Transport Documents" (online, 17 May 2022);

(d) Asian Development Bank (ADB) Conference, "Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration for a New Era of Collective Action" (online, 24 August 2022);

(e) Panel on "The Modernisation of World Trade" at the ICC International Trade and Prosperity Week 2022 (online, 19 October 2022);

(f) Meetings with stakeholders organized by the Bahrain Economic Development Board¹⁴ to coordinate MLETR implementation in Bahrain (Manama, Bahrain, 23–24 October 2022);

(g) Session on "Key Rules, Standards and Principles for Developing Digital Trade" of the CAREC Digital Trade Forum 2022: Advancing Digital Solutions and Deepening Regional Cooperation for Trade (online, 8 November 2022);

(h) Webinar on the digitalisation of German foreign trade organized by ICC Germany (online, 14 November 2022);

(i) Launch of the initiative on trade finance digitalisation with a view to promoting the adoption of the MLETR in France (Paris, 12 January 2023);

(j) 2023 BAFT Europe Bank to Bank Forum organized by the Bankers Association for Finance and Trade (online, 26 January 2023);

(k) On the invitation of ICC France, the Secretariat presented MLETR and other UNCITRAL texts on e-commerce to members of the *Alliance des Patronats Francophones*,¹⁵ a federation of employer organizations in 27 French-speaking countries, emphasizing advantages that trade and trade finance sectors may gain from enacting MLETR and UNCITRAL texts on e-commerce as well as existing

¹³ See previous Note of the Secretariat on Technical cooperation and assistance, [A/CN.9/1099](#), para. 22.

¹⁴ www.bahrainedb.com.

¹⁵ www.patronats-francophones.org.

opportunities for technical and financial assistance support for the implementation of paperless trade reforms (online, 23 February 2023);

(l) Future Trade Forum organized by the ICC Digital Standards Initiative (Singapore and online, 29–30 March 2023);

(m) Lecture on “Trade digitization: the case for the adoption of the MLETR” in the context of the “Law after Lunch” series organized by the Institute of Economic Law of the University of Halle (online, 16 June 2022); and

(n) Webinar “Air Cargo Digitalization in COVID-19 Times: Perspectives on Legal Frameworks and Solution Implementation” organized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) (online, 28 June 2022).

23. The Secretariat also promoted awareness of the recently adopted Model Law on the Use and Cross-border Recognition of Identity Management and Trust Services (MLIT) by participating in the following events:

(a) Digital Identity Workshop organized by the ASEAN Secretariat (online, 24 June 2022);

(b) Interparliamentary Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Expert Advisory Board on Economic Issues of Legal Regulation of Electronic Commerce in the CIS Member Nations (online, 18 October 2022);

(c) IPEN Workshop on Digital Identity co-organized by the European Data Protection Supervisor and Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University (online, 22 June 2022);¹⁶

(d) Identity Management and Electronic Transactions Law Review Consultation for Dominica (online, 25 October 2022);

(e) Caribbean workshop, held in Barbados, on Effective Legal Frameworks for Building the Digital Economy hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) (online, 14 February 2023);

24. Activities aimed at supporting the adoption and implementation of UNCITRAL texts (other than the MLETR) included the following:

(a) Presentation on the practical impact of the United Nations Electronic Communications Convention to members of the bar and legal practitioners of Azerbaijan (online, 20 April 2022);

(b) Maldives Electronic Transactions Law Workshop, co-organized with the Commercial Law Development Programme and the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology of the Maldives (Male, 20–22 June 2023), and preparatory public meeting (online, 11 May 2022);

(c) Participation in a Panel on “Enabling environment, gaps, and ongoing work on policy reforms for promoting e-commerce and cross-border e-commerce” of the ADB CAREC Program – U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Future Growth Initiative Webinar Series: “Toward a Central Asian E-Commerce Market” (online, 12 May 2022);¹⁷

(d) Presentation of the Draft Report on E-Commerce Law in the Kyrgyz Republic, at the event, “Technical Assistance on Enabling a Conducive Environment for the Digital Economy”, organized by the ADB (10 August 2022); and

(e) ADB Law and Policy Reform event on “Presentation of the Draft Report on E-Commerce Law in Mongolia” (online, 20 January 2023).

¹⁶ IPEN is a global network of over 600 public interest non-governmental organizations in more than 120 countries seeking to forge a healthier world where people and the environment are no longer harmed by the production, use, and disposal of toxic chemicals (www.ipen.org/about).

¹⁷ On this initiative, see www.carecprogram.org/?event=carec-program-usaid-future-growth-initiative-webinar-series-toward-a-central-asian-e-commerce-market.

25. In cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Secretariat delivered the following activities, including in the framework of the “eTrade for all” initiative:

(a) Provided comments to the UNCTAD Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment of Least Developed Countries for Mongolia and to the Rwanda E-Commerce Strategy;

(b) Participated in the National Multi-stakeholder Consultations in the Context of the eTrade Readiness Assessment of Mongolia (online, 21 June 2022), in validation workshops of UNCTAD Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments for Mongolia (online, 8 February 2023) and Peru (online, 5 October 2022), and in a workshop on “Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce and implications for legal reform for Kazakhstan” (online, 22 November 2022);

(c) Participated in the UNCTAD eCommerce Week 2022: “Data and Digitalization for Development” (online, 25-29 April 2022); and

(d) Contributed to the delivery of the course “TrainForTrade blended learning strategy to boost the digital economy and build capacity in African SIDS, the Caribbean and Asia and the Pacific”.¹⁸

26. In cooperation with ESCAP, the Secretariat delivered the following activities in the framework of cooperation in paperless trade facilitation:¹⁹

(a) Meetings hosted by ESCAP on paperless trade facilitation (see [A/CN.9/1137](#), para. 8(c)) (Bangkok, 25–26 April and 12–16 December 2022);

(b) Launch event of the publication “Cross-Border Paperless Trade Toolkit”, prepared in cooperation with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and ESCAP Secretariats (online, 20 June 2022);

(c) Webinar on Legal Aspects of Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation, co-organized with ESCAP, ADB and ICC (online, 29 June 2022); and

(d) Virtual Validation Workshop for Tuvalu’s Cross-Border Paperless Trade Readiness Assessment organized by ESCAP (online, 11–12 November 2022).

27. In addition, UNCITRAL presented its texts and work on electronic commerce in collaboration with Chinese domestic institutions at the following events:

(a) Summit of World Jurist Forum, organized by China University of Political Science and Law (Beijing, online, 16 May 2022); and

(b) Forum 2022: Rule of Law in Global Digital Trade, co-organized by the Department of Commerce of Zhejiang Province, Hangzhou Municipal People’s Government, Zhejiang Gongshang University and Academy of International Law and Global Governance of Wuhan University (Hangzhou, online, 13 December 2022).

3. Insolvency

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 8, 10 and 17

28. Building on the momentum offered by the 25th anniversary of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (MLCBI)²⁰ and on the strong interest witnessed from all regions of the world for the establishment of an efficient insolvency legal framework as a mean to improve investment climate, the Secretariat continued to expand the knowledge of UNCITRAL insolvency texts across various regions, including: (i) by promoting interregional and cross-legal tradition dialogue on domestic and cross-border insolvency matters; (ii) by building capacity of the judiciary in developing countries to apply UNCITRAL insolvency texts; and (iii) by

¹⁸ SIDS: Small Island Developing States. On this UNCTAD project, see www.unctad.org/project/trainfortrade-digital-economy-in-small-island-developing-states.

¹⁹ For additional activities carried out with RCAP, see [A/CN.9/1137](#).

²⁰ On the 25th anniversary of the MLCBI and related events, see dedicated portal on the UNCITRAL Website.

increasing awareness and understanding of UNCITRAL insolvency texts among insolvency practitioners.²¹

29. To maximize impact, the Secretariat relies on external partners, such as multilateral development banks or donors, to use UNCITRAL texts as reference in their technical assistance activities and benchmark exercises and to seek expertise from UNCITRAL secretariat on insolvency matters but also on the use of digital tools to share knowledge of UNCITRAL texts. During the reporting period, the UNCITRAL secretariat:

(a) Created a dedicated webpage on the 25th anniversary of the MLCBI, available in the six official languages of the United Nations, to gather information on various events and contributions linked to the celebration;²²

(b) Organized a panel discussion on “Sharing experience across regions: insolvency reforms in Latin America, Europe and beyond”, held on 15 July 2022 during the fifty-fifth session of UNCITRAL²³ to showcase current developments in the use of UNCITRAL insolvency texts by multilateral development banks and donors;

(c) Organized a conference on the 25th anniversary of MLCBI during the sixty-first session of UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law) to illustrate the relevance and timeliness of MLCBI;²⁴

(d) Co-organized with the World Bank and Insol²⁵ a Judicial Round Table, which gathered judges from various regions of the world to share views on the cooperation in cross-border insolvency and the benefits of MLCBI and of explanatory resources being made available by the Secretariat (London, 27 June 2022);

(e) Presented the UNCITRAL Model Law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments (MLIJ) and the UNCITRAL Model Law on Enterprise Group Insolvency (MLEGI) at the Africa Round Table co-organized by the World Bank and Insol (Kigali, 30–31 March 2023);

(f) Presented the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Insolvency Law, Part five: “Insolvency law for micro- and small enterprises” to a delegation of Algeria (Event hosted by the World Bank, Vienna, 14 March 2023);

(g) Presented UNCITRAL insolvency texts to relevant authorities of Viet Nam in the frame of exploratory work undertaken by Viet Nam on a reform of insolvency law (online, 14 April 2022).

30. In addition, insolvency texts were featured in several UNCITRAL Days events.²⁶ The Secretariat also regularly contributes to insolvency law periodicals²⁷ and contributed by a foreword and an introduction to a book by A. Ballesteros and D. Moran Bovio dedicated to UNCITRAL insolvency texts and to be published with identical content in English and Spanish. Lastly, the Secretariat reviews enactments of insolvency model laws upon request.²⁸

²¹ See A/CN.9/1099, paras. 42–47.

²² See, footnote 20 above (www.uncitral.un.org/en/mlcbi25).

²³ See Note by the Secretariat entitled, “*Summary of the panel discussion on “Sharing experience across regions: insolvency reforms in Latin America, Europe and beyond”, held on 15 July 2022 during the fifty-fifth session of UNCITRAL*” (A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.184).

²⁴ The summary of the conference may be found in the annex to the “*Report of Working Group V (Insolvency Law) on the work of its sixty-first session (Vienna, 12–16 December 2022)*” (A/CN.9/1126).

²⁵ INSOL International is a world-wide federation of national associations for accountants and lawyers who specialise in turnaround and insolvency (website: www.insol.org).

²⁶ In particular the events in Ecuador; with AAPDI; at the University of Dschang, Cameroon; at Gaston Berger University in Saint Louis, Senegal; and at the Mandela Institute, Wits School of Law, Johannesburg, South Africa. Unofficial reports on the UNCITRAL Days (Commission website, under the documents of the fifty-sixth session), and II C below.

²⁷ See, A/CN.9/1139.

²⁸ Id.

4. Micro-, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 8 and 9

31. The Secretariat has continued to raise awareness and to promote understanding of key UNCITRAL texts on MSMEs. Seventeen presentations of the Secretariat in various events of the UNCITRAL Days referred to UNCITRAL instruments related to MSMEs, 14 of which were part of the UNCITRAL Days in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC Days). The overarching theme of the LAC Days 2022 was related to MSMEs, so that all other topics presented on in their context also related to MSMEs or micro- and small enterprises (MSEs).

5. Public Procurement and Public-private partnerships (PPPs)

Public Procurement: Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16 and 17

32. The Secretariat has focused its activities on this topic on raising awareness and promoting effective understanding of, adoption and use of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement (MLPP), through the following activities, mindful when doing so to maintain close cooperation with relevant stakeholders in this area:

(a) The release of an online module²⁹ on UNCITRAL texts on public procurement and public-private partnerships³⁰ that provides an overview of UNCITRAL texts on public procurement and PPP and how they contribute to sustainable development goals. It is expected that the module will be made available in Chinese in 2023. The Secretariat is currently discussing with a donor that has expressed interest for funding the translation of the modules in Arabic and Russian;

(b) A presentation on “Digitalization, harmonization and the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement and Legislative Guide on PPPs” at the “Public Procurement: Global Revolution XI” Conference organized by the University of Nottingham (Nottingham, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 13–14 June 2022);

(c) A presentation on “Perspectives from UNCITRAL’s recent experience in public procurement regulatory reform” at the Swedish Procurement Conference 2022 (Stockholm, 5-6 May 2022);

(d) A presentation on “Key features of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement, its complementarity with international norms and tools, and its application in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan” at a workshop hosted by CLDP in cooperation with EBRD and OECD on Public Procurement Reform in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (online, 31 May 2022);

(e) A presentation of the Model Law, the procurement methods under the Model Law and socio-economic policies and the role of e-procurement during a Seminar on Government Procurement and horizontal policies, organized for public procurement officials in Colombia and aimed at identifying good practices and policy recommendations on public procurement and sustainable development (Colombia, 15 and 27 March 2023); and

(f) A presentation on “Public Procurement Review and Remedies: opportunities and challenges of digitalisation” at a workshop for the Public Procurement Commission of Albania organized by EBRD with the Open Contracting Partnership (London and online, 6–7 March 2023).

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Available at www.uncitral.un.org/en/onlinecourses.

33. In addition, the Secretariat presented the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement at several events during the UNCITRAL days.³¹

Public-private partnerships (PPP) - Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 17

34. The Secretariat has continued to promote broader adoption, use and uniform interpretation of the Legislative Guide and Model Legislative Provisions on PPPs, through presentation of the UNCITRAL instruments on PPPs:

(a) At the “2022 International Colloquium on PPP Best Practices”, co-organized by UNCITRAL with the Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE) and the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Finance of People’s Republic of China (Beijing, 17 November 2022);

(b) Through the release of an online module on UNCITRAL texts on public procurement and public-private partnerships (on this activity, see para. 32(a) above).

35. The Secretariat also provided legislative advice and assistance and capacity-building on the use of UNCITRAL PPP texts to the Government of the Maldives in the framework of a CLDP-funded project supporting the establishment of a PPP legal framework in the Maldives (Male, 8–9 February 2023).

6. Sale of goods

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 8, 12 and 16

36. The Secretariat has continued to promote broader adoption, use and uniform interpretation of the CISG, and of the Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, as amended, and to build capacity in the use of these texts. Activities included participation in the following events:

(a) Workshop on CISG implementation co-organized with the Bahrain Bar Society and the Bahrain Economic Development Board (Manama, 24 October 2022);

(b) Conference “CISG: 40(+3) Years and Still Going Strong?” co-organized with Bucerius Law School, University of Vienna Faculty of Law, NYU Law and McGill University (Vienna, 31 March 2023);

(c) Presentation on the practical impact of the CISG to members of the bar and legal practitioners of Azerbaijan (online, 20 April 2022).

7. Security interests

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 8, 9 and 17

37. The Secretariat has continued to coordinate with partners to support legislative reforms based on UNCITRAL texts in this field and to monitor the enactment and use of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Secured Transactions. The Joint Network for Coordinating and Supporting Secured Transactions Reform³² continues to provide a sound platform for coordinating such support (Fifth International Coordination Conference on Secured Transactions Reform, Rome, 4–5 October 2022).

38. The Secretariat also participated in workshops on the new “B-Ready” project of the World Bank, which aims to measure the business and investment climates in 180 economies annually; specifically, the Secretariat participated:

(a) In the “2022 International Seminar on Business Enabling Environment – Transition to the new BEE project”, Washington D.C. (15 November 2022); and

³¹ Events in Algiers; Dschang; Nairobi; Bo; Stellenbosch and Johannesburg. See, unofficial reports on the UNCITRAL Days on the Commission’s website, under the documents of the fifty-sixth session, and Section II C below.

³² See *Note of the Secretariat on Coordination Activities*, [A/CN.9/1143](#).

(b) In the “2022 International Conference on Business Enabling Environment” (8 December 2022).

39. While the Secretariat’s inputs in the above events were focused mainly on financial services, they also addressed the topics of business entry, international trade, dispute resolution, market competition and business insolvency.

8. Transparency in treaty-based international arbitration

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 16

40. The Secretariat continued its efforts to raise awareness and promote effective understanding, adoption and use of the UNCITRAL Transparency Standards, including through dedicated events or through presentations delivered at events covering a broader range of instruments. Among other events, the Secretariat took part in the following key activities:

(a) A presentation of the Transparency Standards during a webinar organized for civil servants of the Ministry of Justice of Azerbaijan in Baku on UNCITRAL texts and their use at the national level (Online, 6 April 2022);

(b) A presentation of the Transparency Standards during a webinar for young and senior lawyers entitled, “The State in the international investment system: institutional improvements and possible reforms”, Center for the Advancement of the Rule of Law in the Americas (CAROLA), Georgetown University Law Center, Washington D.C. (online, 15 May 2022);

(c) An international meeting on Investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) hosted by UNCITRAL jointly with OIF and OHADA, during which the United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (New York, 2014), the Mauritius Convention on Transparency and other relevant texts on arbitration and mediation were presented to delegates of 24 countries (Accra, 24–26 May 2022);³³

(d) A presentation entitled “The main commitments of the AfCFTA Agreement requiring modernized UNCITRAL-inspired private law rules for international trade”, comprising the Transparency Standards, during the Launch event of the UNCITRAL Days in Africa (Accra, 27 May 2022);

(e) A presentation of the Transparency Standards within a Module on Investment Legal Framework entitled “International Investment Agreements”, *Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar*, Quito (online, 8 June 2022);

(f) Presentation of UNCITRAL WG III and dispute resolution instruments at the 45th edition of the Austrian Day of International Law (*Österreichischer Völkerrechtstag*), on “International law perspectives on international dispute resolution”, including on the Transparency Standards (Passau, Germany, 11 June 2022);

(g) Closing event of UNDA COVID-19 Project referenced at para. 19(e) above (online, 20–23 June 2022);

(h) A presentation on the Transparency Standards, organized by the University of Chile jointly with the Center on Arbitration and Mediation, Chamber of Commerce of Santiago (online and in Santiago de Chile, 16 August 2022);

(i) A presentation of the Transparency Standards during a side event to the forty-third session of Working Group III, organized by the UNCITRAL Secretariat (Vienna, 8 September 2022);

(j) A webinar on mediation and international arbitration, including on Transparency Standards, organized by the Center on Mediation and Arbitration,

³³ The 24 countries were Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Congo, Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and Tunisia.

Chamber of Commerce and Services of Nicaragua, Managua, Nicaragua (online, 23 September 2022);

(k) A presentation on the ISDS reform, including on the Rules on Transparency, at the ArbAUT Forum organized by the Austrian Arbitration Association (Vienna, 28 September 2022);

(l) A presentation on the UNCITRAL Arbitration Framework including the Transparency Standards, at International Day, Europe Session, of Asia ADR Week 2022, organized by the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) (online, 5 October 2022);

(m) A presentation on the UNCITRAL Arbitration Framework, including the Transparency Standards, and on the participation of African States to the normative process, at the Paris Colloquium *Horizons africains de l'arbitrage et de la médiation* serving as the award ceremony of the Investment Arbitration African Moot competition (online, 5 October 2022);

(n) A presentation entitled “Regulation of Transparency & Reforming the Investor-State Dispute Settlement System: Progress and Way Forward in UNCITRAL Working Group III”, including on the Transparency Standards, in the framework of UNCITRAL Days in Africa, organized by Ain Shams Law School (Cairo, 11 October 2022);

(o) A presentation during session No. 6 on the Future Practice of Investor-State Dispute Settlement during a webinar entitled *International Investment Law & Investor-State Dispute Settlement* organized by the not-for-profit organization, Practising Law Institute (PLI) (online, 8–10 November 2022);

(p) A presentation at the 11th Asia Pacific ADR Conference (Seoul, 9–10 November 2022), including on ongoing efforts to reform the ISDS mechanism;

(q) A presentation entitled “The contribution of African States to the work of Working Group III of UNCITRAL: a thematic analysis for a consensual reform of the ISDS system” at the Roundtable, “Dispute settlement mechanisms in investment and commercial arbitration” during the conference organized by the University Cadi Ayyad as part of the UNCITRAL Days in Africa (in person, Marrakech, Morocco, 12 November 2022);

(r) Video-recorded presentation on the UNCITRAL instruments in the field of dispute settlements, including the Transparency Rules, UNCITRAL Days in Africa event at Njala University, School of Social Sciences and Law, Bô, Sierra Leone (16–18 November 2022);

(s) Half-day workshop on ISDS reform and transparency standards at the UNCITRAL Days event, “*Challenges of international trade and investment for Senegal*” at University Gaston Berger (Saint Louis, Senegal, 7–8 December 2022);

(t) A presentation entitled “Mauritius Convention on Transparency: its Making, its Outcome and Scope, and its Acceptance” organized by the International Arbitration Institute (Paris, 9 December 2022);

(u) Virtual presentation on Transparency Standards and other UNCITRAL instruments at the *Universidad de Alcalá* in Madrid, Spain (16 December 2022);

(v) A workshop on Investor-State Dispute Settlement and International Investment Agreements jointly organized by UNCITRAL and UNCTAD for negotiators of international investment agreements of the Government of Ecuador, including a presentation on the UNCITRAL Transparency Standards, hybrid format (Ecuador and online, 13, 14 and 16 February 2023);

(w) A presentation on the UNCITRAL Rules on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration, at the opening ceremony of the third Bodenheimer Pre-Moot for the Vis Moot Competition (online, 1 March 2023);

(x) A presentation on the work of UNCITRAL on the ISDS reform including on the Transparency Standards, UNCITRAL Days in Africa (Algiers, 9 March 2023);

(y) A presentation on the scope of application of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules including the UNCITRAL Transparency Standards at the webinar organized by the Latino-American Centre on Mediation and Arbitration (LATCAM) (Paraguay, online, 13 March 2023).

9. Other, ad hoc events

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 16

41. An official delegation from Algeria, including representatives from the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Finance (Agriculture and Rural Development Bank – *Banque Algérienne du Développement Agricole*) and the Primature (investment promotion agency – *Agence Algérienne de la Promotion de l'Investissement*), at the invitation of the World Bank visited the UNCITRAL secretariat and benefitted from wide-ranging presentations on the mandate and work of UNCITRAL and its instruments. The visit was part of a World Bank program on supporting business environment reforms in Algeria with a focus on the new Business Ready (B-Ready) project. The presentations were tailored to accord with the purpose of that program and the requests and interests of the delegation. They focused for the most part on MSMEs. Among the topics: UNCITRAL instruments enabling MSMEs throughout their life cycle, arbitration and dispute settlement including current activities of Working Groups II and III, and UNCITRAL instruments on e-commerce and insolvency. The UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Key Principles of a Business Registry was also featured (Vienna, in person, 14 March 2023).³⁴

C. UNCITRAL Days 2022

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 8, 9 and 17

42. The UNCITRAL Days are an annual series of regional events that the Secretariat of UNCITRAL co-hosts with partner institutions of higher learning, to promote the mandate and the work of UNCITRAL and raise awareness of UNCITRAL texts in academic circles. Held typically in the last quarter of the year, they are aimed at the future and new generations of legal practitioners, academics and policymakers, who might become essential participants in and proponents of the work of UNCITRAL.

43. The preparation of the events by the host institutions is coordinated with and supported by the UNCITRAL secretariat, which delivers presentations and provides keynote speakers.

44. Originally conceived as an annual celebration of the establishment of UNCITRAL specifically for the Asia Pacific region (first edition, 2014), the series were in 2020 extended to the Latin American and Caribbean region (LAC), where they met with similar interest and success.

45. At its fifty-fourth session in 2021, the Commission noted these successes and welcomed a further extension to the African continent, where the inaugural edition was held in this reporting period.³⁵

³⁴ For more information on the World Bank's flagship B-Ready Programme, see the Project's Concept Note on the World Bank's website and visit: www.worldbank.org/en/businessready.

³⁵ Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, fifty-fourth session (28 June–16 July 2021), Doc. No. A/76/17, para. 315. See also, of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, fifty-fifth session (27 June–15 July 2022, Doc. No. A/77/17), para. 21.

46. The following are brief highlights of the 2022 series of UNCITRAL Days in the Latin American and Caribbean region and in Africa respectively:³⁶

(a) The third edition of the “UNCITRAL LAC Days” involved 30 hosting universities and 32 other institutions of higher learning in 20 countries.³⁷ Thirty-one academic events were held either in person, remotely or in a hybrid format, under the theme “An enabling legal environment for micro- and small enterprises such as simplified incorporation, business registration, access to credit, insolvency, including in the context of crises (e.g. COVID-19)”. Nicaragua and El Salvador participated for the first time:³⁸

The UNCITRAL collection of texts on MSMEs were at the heart of all activities, demonstrating how existing UNCITRAL texts can assist in addressing legal obstacles and support MSEs throughout their lifecycle in the LAC countries.

(b) The first edition of the UNCITRAL Days in Africa, for its part, comprised 16 events including the launch event, hosted by ten institutions of higher learning and one Ministry of Foreign Affairs in nine African countries (including French, Arab and English-speaking countries).³⁹ The events were held both in person and remotely:

Taking stock of the entry into force in May 2019 of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement and following suggestions by African States at the inaugural session of the UNCITRAL Days in Africa, the overarching theme of the sessions was “Modernization and harmonization of the international commercial law framework in the AfCFTA context”. The relevance of the mandate and the work of UNCITRAL featured in each event alongside themes specific to the region.

47. A diverse audience across and beyond the regions attended the UNCITRAL Days series. Whilst most of the events were directed towards law students, some were delivered to other stakeholders, such as public and private experts and researchers. The success of the UNCITRAL Days, as shown in the below statistics for 2022 (table under paragraph 50 below), is largely attributable to the continuous support received from all the partner institutions.

48. For the LAC Days 2022, this has included 30 hosting universities, six Ministries, four National Authorities on MSMEs and 32 participating institutions (international and regional organizations, chambers of commerce, business and entrepreneurial associations, bar associations, mediation and arbitration centres; among others).

49. The Africa Days involved 10 hosting universities. The support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana was critical to the success of this inaugural series in Africa. The regional organization OHADA presented in one of the events.

50. The wide participation in the UNCITRAL Days series is also attributable to the availability and use of online platforms, which enable remote participation. The

³⁶ Comprehensive reports on the three editions of the UNCITRAL Days held in 2022 are available as non-official documents at www.uncitral.un.org/en/commission (under the fifty-sixth session documents). The reports include the comprehensive schedule and agenda of each series of events, lists of host institutions, of partner institutions, a summary of each event, and statistics. The UNCITRAL Days in Asia and the Pacific are also covered in more detail in the Note by the Secretariat on the Activities of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RCAP), A/CN.9/1137.

³⁷ Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

³⁸ El Salvador was a hosting jurisdiction in the past, however this time the event in El Salvador was officially organized by national authorities, specifically the National Authority on MSMEs (Comisión Nacional de la Micro y Pequeña Empresa - CONAMYPE), and the Ministry of Economy.

³⁹ Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Senegal, Sierra Leone and South Africa.

UNCITRAL Days events will continue to be held in a hybrid or online format so long as the host institution has the technical means and resources.

<i>Participation to the UNCITRAL Days in 2022⁴⁰</i>		
<i>Region</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Gender Ratio</i>
LAC	1 233	55% of women
Africa	1 400	45% of women
Asia and Pacific	3 500	47% of women
Total	6 133	49% of women

51. The three series of UNCITRAL Days 2022 adopted an inclusive and comprehensive approach and thereby continued to significantly contribute to raising awareness of the work of UNCITRAL and all of its existing texts, while evidencing the importance of harmonizing national or regional legislative frameworks and practices with international standards. Furthermore, ongoing legislative work was presented.

52. The Secretary of UNCITRAL provided opening remarks at most events, and on occasion presented on some of the topics. In total, 67 presentations were delivered by the UNCITRAL secretariat on, respectively:

<i>Topics</i>	<i>Presentations delivered⁴¹</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>AP Days</i>	<i>LAC Days</i>	<i>Africa Days</i>	
Business Registry		12		12
Insolvency (General)		5	4	9
Insolvency for MSEs		10		10
General presentations on UNCITRAL	13	1	7	21
Exploratory work in relation to COVID-19		19		19
MSMEs	1	20	2	23
Dispute settlement and arbitration (including as applicable mediation, and transparency)	10		6	16
Access to credit (including secured transactions)		10	2	12
WG III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform)			10	10
E-commerce	2		2	4
International Sale of Goods	3			3
Limited Liability Enterprise		12	1	13
Public procurement rules and public-private partnership			1	1

53. Further to feedback received from regional stakeholders, the Secretariat has started planning and coordinating similar events for Arab countries.

⁴⁰ All statistics are based on data provided by the organizers and comprise in-person and virtual (remote) synchronous participation. All figures are approximative.

⁴¹ Some presentations spanned several topics. Accordingly, the total of topics presented (153) does not match the total of presentations delivered (67).