



General Assembly

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**United Nations Commission on
International Trade Law
Working Group II (Dispute Settlement)
Seventy-first session
New York, 3–7 February 2020**

Annotated provisional agenda

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Consideration of issues relating to expedited arbitration.
5. Adoption of the report.

II. Composition of the Working Group

1. The Working Group is composed of all States members of the Commission, which are the following: Algeria (2025), Argentina (2022), Australia (2022), Austria (2022), Belarus (2022), Belgium (2025), Brazil (2022), Burundi (2022), Cameroon (2025), Canada (2025), Chile (2022), China (2025), Colombia (2022), Côte d'Ivoire (2025), Croatia (2025), Czechia (2022), Dominican Republic (2025), Ecuador (2025), Finland (2025), France (2025), Germany (2025), Ghana (2025), Honduras (2025), Hungary (2025), India (2022), Indonesia (2025), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (2022), Israel (2022), Italy (2022), Japan (2025), Kenya (2022), Lebanon (2022), Lesotho (2022), Libya (2022), Malaysia (2025), Mali (2025), Mauritius (2022), Mexico (2025), Nigeria (2022), Pakistan (2022), Peru (2025), Philippines (2022), Poland (2022), Republic of Korea (2025), Romania (2022), Russian Federation (2025), Singapore (2025), South Africa (2025), Spain (2022), Sri Lanka (2022), Switzerland (2025), Thailand (2022), Turkey (2022), Uganda (2022), Ukraine (2025), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2025), United States of America (2022), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2022), Viet Nam (2025) and Zimbabwe (2025).

2. States not members of the Commission and international governmental organizations may attend the session as observers and participate in the deliberations. In addition, invited international non-governmental organizations may attend the session as observers and represent the views of their organizations on matters where the organization concerned has expertise or international experience so as to facilitate the deliberations at the session.



III. Annotations to agenda items

Item 1. Opening of the session

3. The seventy-first session of the Working Group will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 3 to 7 February 2020. Meeting hours will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., except on Monday, 3 February 2020, when the session will be open at 10.30 a.m.

Item 2. Election of officers

4. In accordance with its practice at previous sessions, the Working Group may wish to elect a Chairman and a Rapporteur.

Item 4. Consideration of issues relating to expedited arbitration

(a) Previous deliberations

5. At its fifty-first session, the Commission agreed that Working Group II should be mandated to take up issues relating to expedited arbitration.¹

6. Accordingly, at its sixty-ninth session (New York, 4–8 February 2019), the Working Group commenced its consideration of issues relating to expedited arbitration with preliminary discussion on the scope of its work, characteristics of expedited arbitration, and possible form of the work. The Secretariat was requested to prepare draft texts on expedited arbitration and to provide relevant information based on the deliberations and decisions of the Working Group.

7. At its fifty-second session, the Commission considered the report of the Working Group on the work of its sixty-ninth session ([A/CN.9/969](#)) and expressed its satisfaction with the progress made by the Working Group and the support provided by the Secretariat.²

8. At its seventieth session (Vienna, 23 to 27 September, 2019), the Working Group considered the draft provisions on expedited arbitration prepared by the Secretariat ([A/CN.9/WG.II/WP.209](#)). At the end of the session, the Secretariat was requested to update the draft provisions based on the deliberations, illustrating how they could appear as an appendix to the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules and also how those provisions could be presented in a stand-alone set of rules on expedited arbitration.

(b) Documentation

9. At its seventy-first session, the Working Group is expected to continue its work on the preparation of a text on expedited arbitration, on the basis of a note by the Secretariat ([A/CN.9/WG.II/WP.212](#) and addendum). The Working Group may also wish to take note of the responses received by the Secretariat from arbitral institutions on their role in administering expedited arbitration and an overview of selected expedited arbitration provisions prepared by ICCA, both available on the UNCITRAL website.

10. A limited number of the following background documents will be made available at the session:

- UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules (2013);
- UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (2006);
- UNCITRAL Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings (2016);
- Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-first session (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third*

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/73/17), para. 252.

² *Ibid.*, *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* ([A/74/17](#)), paras. 156–158.

Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/73/17)) and of its fifty-second session (Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/74/17)); and

- Report of Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) on the work of its sixty-ninth session (A/CN.9/969) and of its seventieth session (A/CN.9/1003).

11. UNCITRAL documents are posted on the [UNCITRAL website](#) upon their issuance in all the official languages of the United Nations. Delegates may wish to check the availability of the documents by accessing the [Working Group II page](#).

Item 5. Adoption of the report

12. The Working Group may wish to adopt, at the close of its session, a report for submission to the fifty-third session of the Commission, scheduled to be held in New York, tentatively from 6 to 17 July 2020.

IV. Scheduling of meetings

13. The seventy-first session of the Working Group will last for five working days. There will be ten half-day meetings available for consideration of the agenda items. The Working Group may wish to note that, consistent with decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session,³ the Working Group is expected to hold substantive deliberations during the first nine half-day meetings (that is, from Monday to Friday morning), with a draft report on the entire period being prepared by the Secretariat for adoption at the tenth and last meeting of the Working Group (on Friday afternoon). The main conclusions reached by the Working Group at its ninth meeting (on Friday morning) will be summarily read out for the record at the tenth meeting and subsequently incorporated into the report.

14. The Working Group may wish to note that its seventy-second session is tentatively scheduled to be held in Vienna, from 21 to 25 September 2020. This is subject to confirmation by the Commission at its fifty-third session.

³ Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/56/17 and Corr.3), para. 381.