UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW



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Ref: LA/TL 131(4) AJB/akb 10 September 2020

Dear Madam/Sir,

In accordance with a decision taken by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) at its first part of the fifty-third session (2020), the UNCITRAL Working Group III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform) will hold its thirty-ninth session from 5 to 9 October 2020.

I have the honour to invite your organization to attend the Working Group session as an observer. In accordance with the practice established in UNCITRAL, your organization may present the views of your organization on matters you have expertise or international experience so as to facilitate the deliberations of the Working Group. Information about UNCITRAL rules of procedure and methods of work is available at https://uncitral.un.org/en/about/methods/officialdocs.

Following the discussions at its thirty-eighth and resumed thirty-eighth sessions, the Working Group is expected to continue work on the possible reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS), on the basis of the mandate given by the Commission at its fiftieth session, which provided that the Working Group should: (i) first, identify and consider concerns regarding ISDS; (ii) second, consider whether reform is desirable in light of any identified concerns; and (iii) third, if the Working Group concludes that reform is desirable, to develop any relevant solutions to be recommended to the Commission (see the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fiftieth session, https://uncitral.un.org/en/commission, para 264).

The provisional agenda for the session with annotations (A/CN.9/WG.III/WP.198) is available on the UNCITRAL website (https://uncitral.un.org).

I should be grateful if you would kindly inform me (by email to: uncitral@un.org) whether your organization intends to attend the session of the Working Group and, if so, the names and e-mails of up to one (1) representative before 28 September 2020 to facilitate their participation. The Secretariat may not be in a position to accommodate late registrations as certain preparatory measures are required for both in person and remote participation.

It would be important for your organization to indicate whether the representative would be attending the session in person at the Vienna International Centre or making interventions remotely via the online platform, Interprefy.

Detailed information about venue as well as access to the Vienna International Centre and the connection details to Interprefy will be communicated to registered participants in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Joubin-Bret The Secretary United Nations Commission on

International Trade Law