



General Assembly

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**United Nations Commission on
International Trade Law
Working Group VI (Judicial Sale of Ships)
Thirty-seventh session
New York, 20–24 April 2020**

Annotated provisional agenda

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session and scheduling of meetings.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Future instrument on the judicial sale of ships.
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 and scheduling of meetings

3. The thirty-seventh session of the Working Group will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 24 April 2020. Meeting hours will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., except on Monday, 20 April 2020, when the session will be opened 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. Future instrument on the judicial sale of ships

(a) Background information

5. At its fifty-first session (New York, 25 June–13 July 2018), the Commission agreed to add the topic of judicial sale of ships to the work programme of the Commission.¹ Background information on the decision to add the topic to the work programme may be found in document [A/CN.9/WG.VI/WP.80](#), paragraphs 5–11.

6. At its thirty-fifth session (New York, 13–17 May 2019), the Working Group considered the topic for the first time, and decided that the draft convention on the recognition of foreign judicial sales of ships, prepared by the Comité Maritime International (CMI) and approved by the CMI Assembly in 2014 (known as the “Beijing Draft”), would provide a useful basis for discussion ([A/CN.9/973](#), para. 25), while agreeing that it would be premature for the Working Group to consider the form of any eventual instrument (*ibid.*, para. 25). At its fifty-second session (Vienna, 8–19 July 2019), the Commission expressed its satisfaction with the progress made by the Working Group.²

7. At its thirty-sixth session, the Working Group continued its work on the basis of a first revision of the Beijing Draft, which had been prepared by the Secretariat to incorporate the discussions and decisions of the Working Group at its thirty-fifth session ([A/CN.9/WG.VI/WP.84](#)). The Working Group considered several key provisions of the first revision ([A/CN.9/1007](#)) and expressed a preliminary view that the instrument should take the form of a convention, while agreeing that a final decision on the matter should be made at a future session (*ibid.*, para. 99).

(b) Documentation

8. The Working Group will have before it an annotated second revision of the Beijing Draft, which has been prepared by the Secretariat to incorporate the discussions and decisions of the Working Group at its thirty-sixth session ([A/CN.9/WG.VI/WP.87](#)). The Working Group will also have before it a note prepared by the Secretariat to accompany the second revision, which highlights some overarching issues for consideration, including a proposed centralized online repository for the publication of notices and certificates of judicial sale ([A/CN.9/WG.VI/WP.87/Add.1](#)).

9. UNCITRAL documents are posted on the UNCITRAL website (<https://uncitral.un.org/>) 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 page of the Working Group in the “Working Documents” section of the UNCITRAL website.

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](#)), para. 189.

Item 5. Adoption of the report

10. 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 from 6 to 17 July 2020. The main conclusions reached by the Working Group at its ninth meeting (Friday morning) will be summarily read out for the record at the tenth meeting (Friday afternoon) and subsequently incorporated into the report.

IV. Scheduling of meetings

11. The thirty-seventh 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.

12. The Working Group may wish to note that its thirty-eighth session is tentatively scheduled to be held in Vienna from 14 to 18 December 2020, those dates being 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.