Statement at the 74th General Assembly Sixth Committee Agenda Item 77: Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-second session Julian Simcock, Deputy Legal Adviser United States Mission to the United Nations October 21, 2019

Thank you, Chair.

The United States welcomes the Report of the 52nd session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and commends the efforts of UNCITRAL's Member States, observers, and Secretariat in continuing to promote the development and harmonization of international commercial law.

We were pleased that UNCITRAL approved a number of new guides and legal instruments in 2019. We would like to thank the Secretariat for its excellent work managing the update of the Model Legislative Provisions on Public-Private Partnerships and accompanying Legislative Guide. Developed with the assistance of experts and Member States, this updated guide should better promote the sound management of such partnerships with its emphasis on enhancing transparency, fairness, and sustainability, while reducing the risk of corruption and the misuse of public funds.

We note that the Practice Guide to the UNCITRAL Model Law on Secured Transactions was the final product concluded by the very productive working group on Secured Transactions. We hope this Practice Guide will serve as a useful reference to individuals and businesses looking for practical, actionable advice on how to operate and structure transactions under the UNCITRAL Model Law.

We were also pleased that UNCITRAL approved the Model Law on Enterprise Group Insolvency and its Guide to Enactment. We hope this law will contribute to the establishment of harmonized national enterprise group insolvency laws that protect and maximize the value of the assets and operations of enterprise groups and their members, while also providing appropriate protection to creditors. In addition, and relatedly, we were pleased that UNCITRAL updated its Legislative Guide on Insolvency Law to address the obligations of directors of enterprise group companies in the period approaching insolvency.

We note with satisfaction that UNCITRAL undertook a number of suggestions made in prior years to improve its working methods and become more efficient. As a result, the Commission session this year was well organized and more streamlined, and we look forward to UNCITRAL's continued efforts to structure its agenda and meetings to maximize both efficiency and effectiveness. We look forward to continuing our productive engagement with UNCITRAL

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this year. We welcome planned discussions on the appropriate size and composition of UNCITRAL's membership. We hope such discussions will focus on ensuring UNCITRAL can maintain and improve upon its ability to develop and promote effective, usable instruments supporting stable and predictable legal outcomes for citizens and businesses of our country, and the world.