Statement by
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the work of its fifty-fourth session

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Israel comment

Madame Chairperson,

Israel expresses its gratitude and appreciation for the great efforts made by the UNCITRAL Secretariat in continuing to adapt to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. These efforts were evident in the organization and facilitation of hybrid meetings held throughout the year. Even though the circumstances were not ideal, the Commission -- with the invaluable assistance of the Secretariat -- managed to make significant progress in various projects.

Israel congratulates the Commission and the UNCITRAL Secretariat for the excellent work done throughout the past year. This includes the adoption of the legislative recommendations on a simplified insolvency regime for micro and small enterprises, following the impressive work of Working Group Five (V) over the past years. We support the ongoing work on this initiative, including the revisions to the draft commentary. We would also like to thank everyone involved in the adoption of the UNCITRAL mediation rules; the notes on mediation; and the expedited arbitration rules. These projects required years of work, and their successful completion would not have been possible without the constant support of the Secretariat and our colleagues -- the member States and observers of UNCITRAL.

Madam Chairperson,

We would also like to highlight the Israeli- and Japanese- proposal for international dispute resolution in the realm of technology-related disputes. Since 2019, Israel has worked with other delegations, the Secretariat, and experts on this important project. The aim is to lay the groundwork for creating a legal framework to address the specific needs of technology-related industries. This framework could potentially include provisions addressing the need for more detailed confidentiality standards; improved case management; and the need for expert input and shorter timeframes in order to support the timely resolution of disputes where appropriate.

We particularly welcome the decision by the Commission to hold a Colloquium in the spring of 2022, which will include a focus on technology-related disputes. Our hope is
that the outcome of the Colloquium will result in a formal recommendation that the Commission commence formal work on technology-related disputes in the fall of 2022.

Finally, we wish to congratulate the Commission on reaching consensus for the enlargement of UNCITRAL’s membership, following the efforts of several delegations and spearheaded by Japan. Israel is confident that such enlargement will allow for increased participation, and will ultimately enhance the various projects undertaken by UNCITRAL.

As always, Israel looks forward in the upcoming year to continuing to work closely with fellow Member States and Observers, as well as the UNCITRAL Secretariat, in order to develop universal legal tools that promote global trade.

I thank you, Madame Chairperson.