

UNCITRAL 60TH ANNIVERSARY

ELEVATION OUR PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NEXT PHASE

DATE AND TIME

21 July 2026, 10:00~16:45

VENUE

United Nation University

Organized by UNCITRAL and the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this event takes place at a time when the global economy faces multidimensional challenges, making the harmonization of international trade law more essential than ever for sustainable development. To mark UNCITRAL's 60th anniversary, the event reflects on its major achievements over the past six decades and its vital role in shaping fair, effective, and future-ready legal frameworks that support international commerce and dispute resolution, while celebrating Japan's longstanding contributions, and looks ahead to emerging opportunities for cooperation and innovation.

Participants will gain insights into UNCITRAL's impact across three key dimensions:

- international rule-making and Japan's contributions;
- the development of dispute resolution for the digital era; and
- the evolving future of ADR under global harmonization efforts.

Across two panels and a concluding roundtable, speakers will examine UNCITRAL's legacy and influence on international trade law, its current initiatives, and its future role in strengthening international rules, including new opportunities for collaboration between UNCITRAL and Japan — ensuring that global trade continues to be supported by harmonized, modern, and enabling frameworks fostering legal certainty and predictability.



PROGRAMME

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10:00-10:30 **Opening Remarks**

10:30-12:00 **Panel Discussion 1**

Japan's Contribution to UNCITRAL and Future Prospects

This panel will highlight UNCITRAL's impact on international trade law and major achievements in legal harmonization over the past six decades, including Japan's important contributions. Panelists will also explore future developments and consider ways to further strengthen cooperation between UNCITRAL and Japan to advance the development of international rules and promote their effective implementation.

13:20-14:50 **Panel Discussion 2**

Achievement of DRDE Project and Future Prospects

The panel will discuss Japan's leadership in initiating the Dispute Resolution on Digital Economy (DRDE) project, the project's impact on ADR including progress and key outcomes achieved under UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) thus far, the future direction of the DRDE project in the broader trajectory of ADR in an age of rapid technological change, and how Japan can continue to contribute to its development.

14:50-15:10 Coffee Break



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15:10-16:40 **Panel Discussion 3**

UNCITRAL's Impact on International Law and Rule-Making in ADR

This interactive roundtable will explore UNCITRAL's contributions to international law and rulemaking in the field of ADR, particularly arbitration and mediation. Panelists will examine how UNCITRAL instruments have influenced this evolution and discuss their potential impact on the future landscape of dispute resolution.

16:40-16:45 **Closing Remarks**

