



GOVERNMENT
PROCUREMENT

SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION

— FREE THREE-PART WEBINAR SERIES

New Directions in *International Development* Procurement

July 20 • 22 • 24, 2026

9:00 AM ET • 15:00 CET • 18:30 IST



Welcome

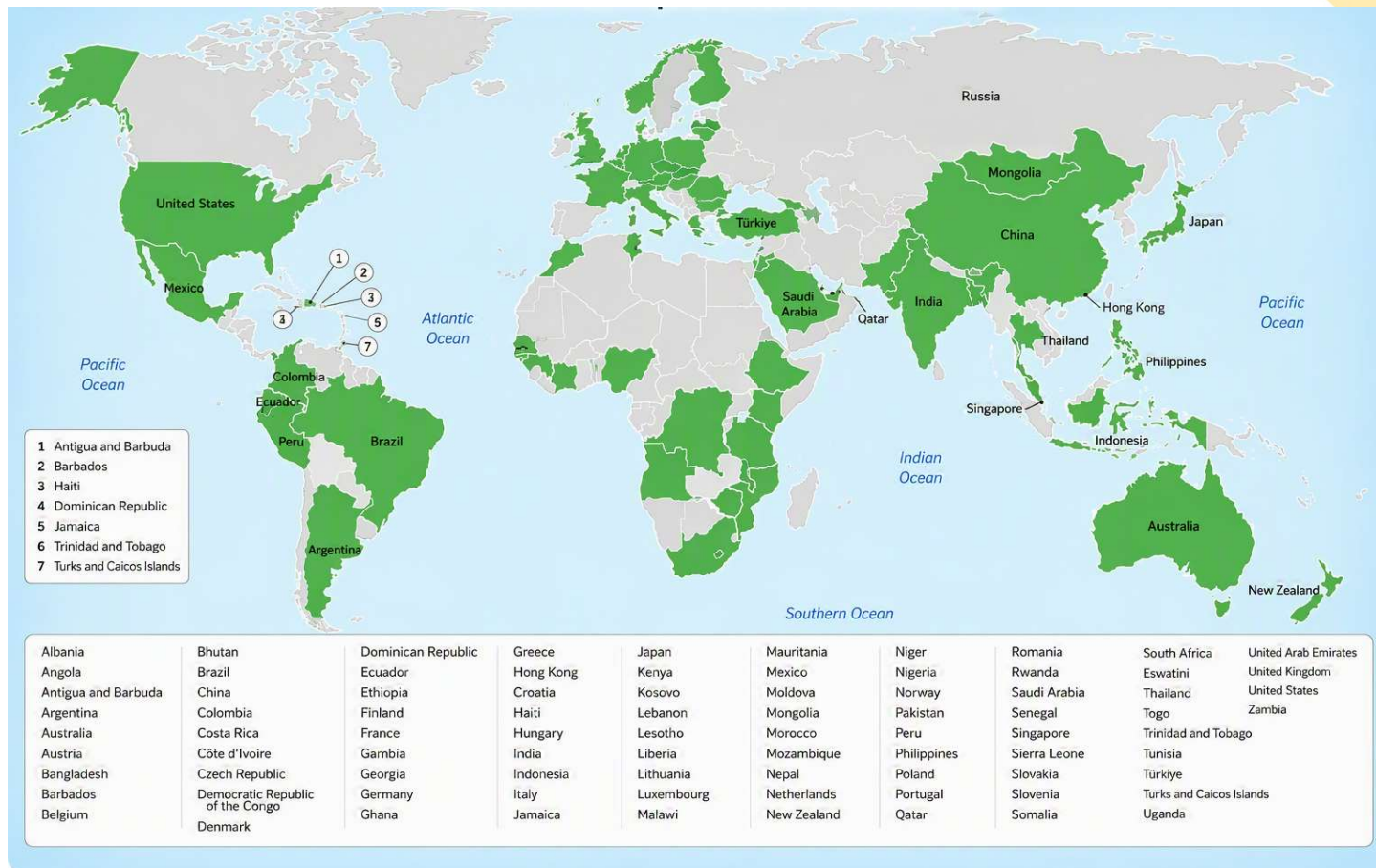
Christopher Yukins (co-moderator)

**Lynn David Research Professor in Government Procurement Law
GW Law School – Government Procurement Law Program**

- **Recording will be available**
 - publicprocurementinternational.com
(with program materials)
 - *GW Law Government Procurement Law Program* YouTube page
- **Chat available**
- Speakers' statements are in their personal capacities



Over 300 registrants – 60 countries



440+ registrants from 85 countries over six continents



Co-Moderator Benedetta Audia

Benedetta Audia is the Principal of International Development LLC, a firm advising private sector companies in international development and business matters and providing counsel to multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations and government entities.

Three Sessions

9 am ET- 15:00 CET

Monday, July 20

Introduction and Key Updates

Wednesday, July 22

Contracting in International Development

Friday, July 24

Anti-Corruption

Panelists



Benedetta Audia



Prabhat Garg



Benjamin Herisset



Jun Jin



Caroline Nicholas



Vinay Sharma



Jean-Jacques Verdeaux



Sope Williams



Christopher Yukins

Monday, July 20 – Introduction – Key Developments

Co-moderator: Professor Benedetta Audia (GW Law / LUISS)

Jun Jin, General Counsel and Director of the Office of Legal Services, UNDP will discuss key changes in how international development organizations are addressing public procurement.

Caroline Nicholas, a former senior member of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, will discuss UNCITRAL's re-opening of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement — a key tool for international development globally.

Benjamin Herisset, a legal officer in the UNCITRAL secretariat who will be working on the targeted updates of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement approved by the Commission, will be speaking on next steps in that reform process.

Wednesday, July 22 – Contracting in International Development



Matteo Amerigo
de Laurentiis

Co-moderator: Jean-Jacques Verdeaux (Procurement Practice Manager for the Latin America and Caribbean Region, World Bank), will discuss the World Bank's ongoing initiative to improve public contract administration.

Vinay Sharma, co-author with co-panelist Prabhat Garg of *Demystifying International Public Procurement* (forthcoming), will address the unique contracting issues presented by contract award and administration.



Friday, July 24 – Anti-Corruption

Co-Moderator: Professor Sope Williams (GW Law / Stellenbosch University)

Prabhat Garg, drawing on his book with co-panelist Vinay Sharma, *Demystifying International Public Procurement* (forthcoming), will address international institutions' focused approach to anti-corruption.

Professors Williams and Yukins, as co-moderators, will discuss emerging trends globally in anti-corruption and procurement.



Jun Jin

UN Development Programme

Intersection of Procurement and International Development

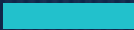
- International Procurement in the UN
- Recent cuts in funding and impact on agencies, personnel and people in the developing world
- The Path Forward -
Strengthening infrastructure for procurement in the developing world -- legal frameworks and institutional and individual capacity



Procurement Reform in the UN: A Strategic Evolution

- Breaking Down Silos and Fostering Interagency Collaboration - The "Mutual Recognition" Revolution
- Leveraging Global Volume: The Rise of Long-Term Agreements
- Mainstreaming Sustainable Procurement
- Enhancing Accountability, Transparency, and Ethics
- Professionalizing the Ranks
- Increasing Digitalization





Reforming the UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement

Modernising the 2011 Model Law, while preserving the features that have made it a global benchmark for public procurement reform



Caroline Nicholas
carolinenich@outlook.com

20 July 2026

What is the Model Law and why does it matter?

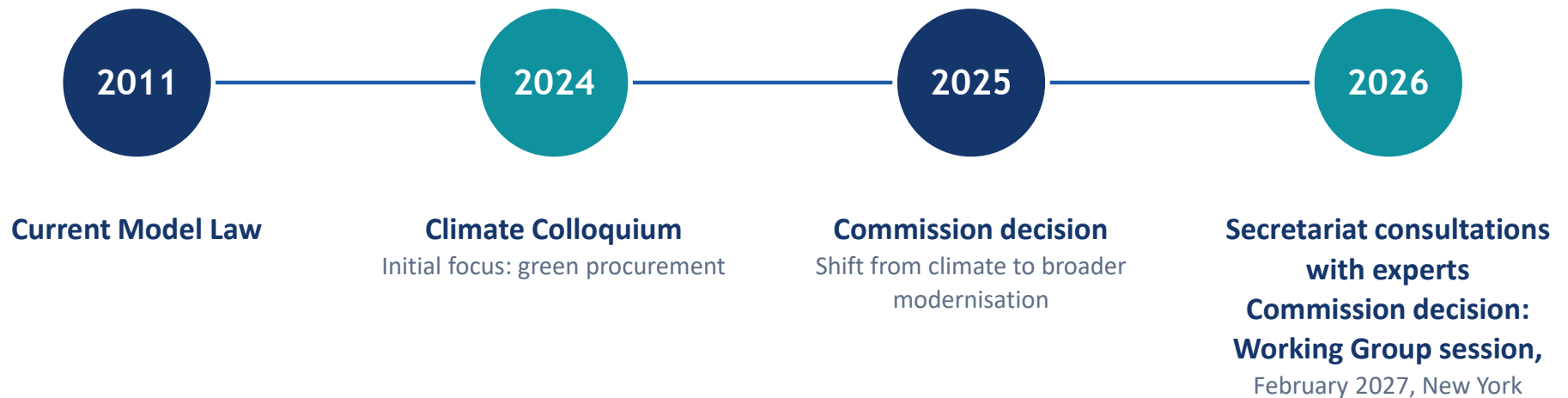


The UNCITRAL Model Law (2011) is a leading international framework for national public procurement legislation

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Guide to Enactment ·
Guidance on Regs · Glossary

Background to reform proposals



REFORM OBJECTIVE

Modernise the Model Law/supporting documents, while preserving core principles

2026-2027 - what happens now?



Characteristics of Working Groups

- ✓ Member State led
- ✓ Consensus based
- ✓ Inclusive
- ✓ Transparent

■ How can I get involved?

Taking part in the Working Group

- Only States and invited IGOs and NGOs take part in Working Group sessions
- These organisations nominate their own delegates
- NGOs not already participating in UNCITRAL can request the Secretariat to take part as observers

Demonstrating UN values, international character and relevance

What an individual can do

- Encourage your government or a relevant NGO to consult stakeholders and take part
- Send comments on the issues raised to the UNCITRAL Secretariat

EMAIL THE SECRETARIAT

uncitral@un.org



Benjamin Herisset
UN Commission on
International Trade
Law (UNCITRAL)
Secretariat

Topics listed for possible updates to the MLPP and related texts (A/CN.9/1257)

E-procurement and digital transformation

Exclusion and debarment mechanisms; anti-corruption and transparency aspects

Suppliers' lists or certification schemes

Framework agreements

Use of non-price criteria for strategic procurement purposes

Use of ADR in procurement

Broadening the Model Law's coverage of the procurement cycle

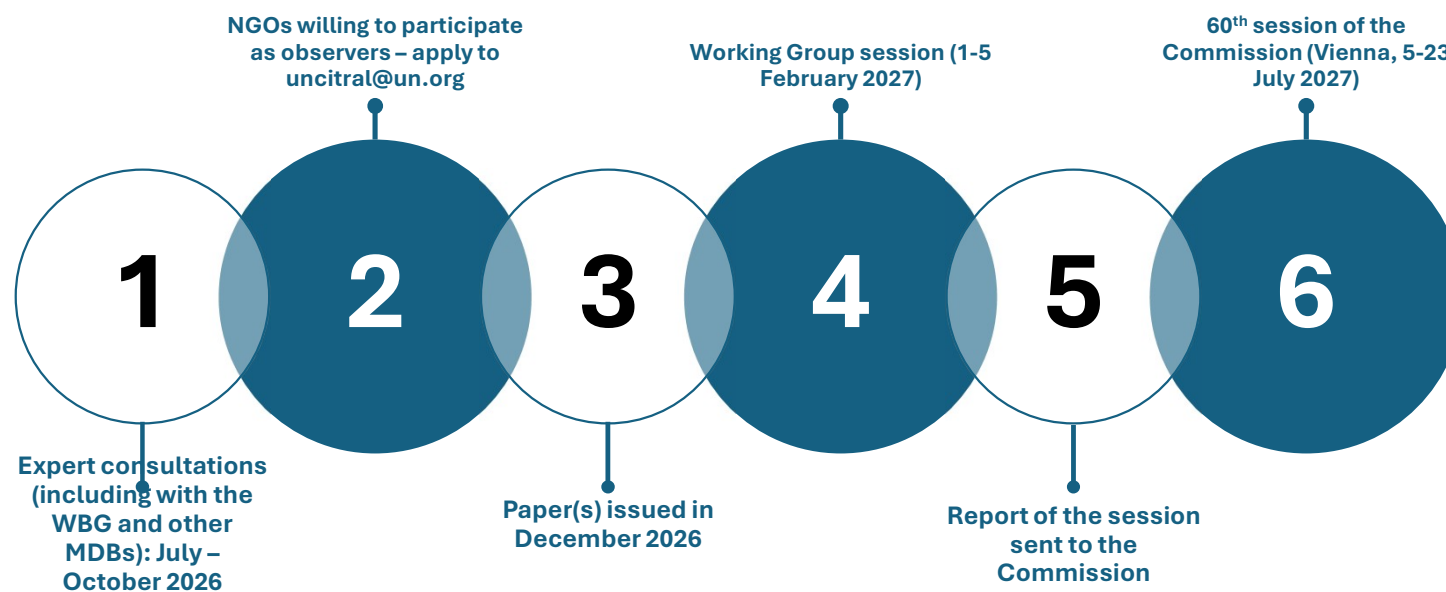
Facilitating MSMEs participation in public procurement

Other topics: community participation, professionalization of procurement agents

Commission 59th session (New York, July 2026)

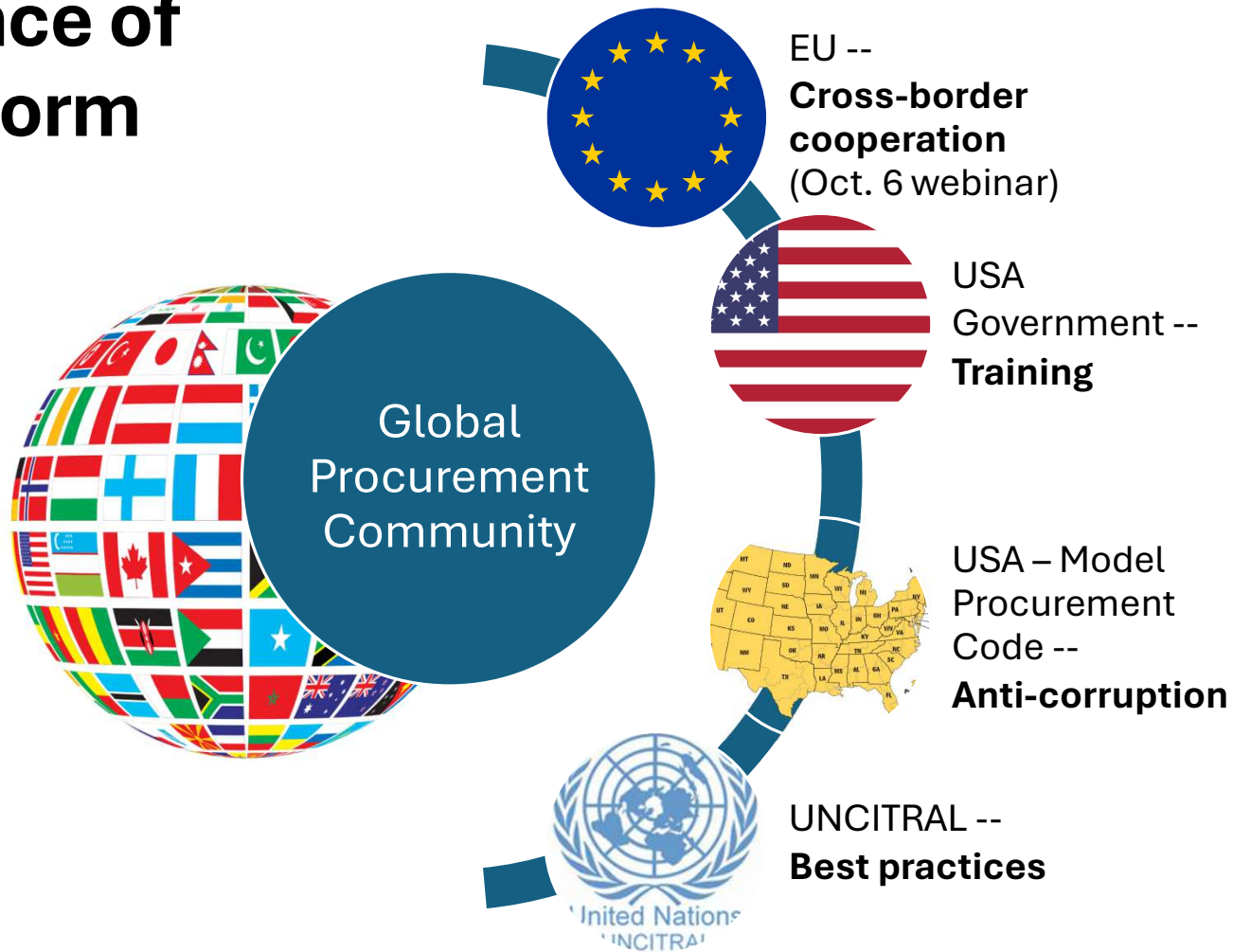
Emphasis on:	Cautious approach:	EU reform	Outcome
• Digital aspects, • Better infrastructure, • Expanding markets for MSMEs, • Additional guidance for Framework Agreements.	• Arbitration, • Expanding to procurement preparation and contract management, • MSMEs aspects.	• Monitoring developments and coordination.	• Working Group to consider all topics listed for possible updates, 1-5 February 2027, New York. • Report to 60th Commission session (5-23 July 2027, Vienna).

What's next?



Christopher Yukins

Convergence of Global Reform Efforts



Questions and Discussion

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Conclusion

Video recording of today's session will be available on GW Law – Government Procurement Law **YouTube Page** & **www.publicprocurementinternational.com**