



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF PRIVATE LAW
INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL POUR L'UNIFICATION DU DROIT PRIVE

**Informal Meeting on the Preparation of an
International Guidance Document
on Agricultural Land Investment Contracts**

***FAO, Legal Office Meeting Room A451
Rome, 20 October 2016***

UNIDROIT 2016
Study LXXX B/INF. Meeting/Agenda
Original: English
September 2016

ANNOTATED INFORMAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the informal meeting
2. Introduction to UNIDROIT and its working methods
3. Background on UNIDROIT's work on private law and agricultural development
 - a. UNIDROIT-FAO-IFAD Legal Guide on Contract Farming
 - b. Agricultural land investment contracts
4. The possible future instrument on agricultural land investment contracts
 - a. Scope
 - b. Content
 - c. Form
 - d. Target audience
 - e. Study Group
5. Closing of the informal meeting

ANNOTATIONS

Item No. 1 – Opening of the informal meeting

1. An informal meeting on the preparation of an international guidance document on agricultural land investment contracts will be held on 20 October 2016 to raise awareness and solicit input on the upcoming work. It will be held from 15h30 to 17h30 at the Food and Agriculture Organization, Legal Office Meeting Room A451.

2. The documentation for the meeting includes an Overview of UNIDROIT's work on agricultural land investment contracts (Overview document) and a Memorandum on the possible preparation of an international guidance document on land investment contracts (Feasibility study). Both the Overview document and the Feasibility study were transmitted together with this annotated informal agenda.

Item No. 4 – The possible future instrument on agricultural land investment contracts

3. A preliminary discussion will be held on the possible future instrument, during which initial input will be sought from participants on, but not limited to, the topics and questions below. The input will then be taken into consideration in the formation of the Study Group and provided to that Group once it has been constituted for their consideration as well.

- Scope
 - What type of agricultural land investments should the instrument cover (i.e. concessions, leases, etc.)?
 - With respect to land ownership, how should the work take into account the great diversity in land tenure regimes around the world?
 - How should the instrument ensure that it does not endorse – or even appear to endorse – large-scale land acquisitions (e.g. a statement or disclaimer at the outset)?
 - How should the interplay between agricultural land investments and natural resources (e.g. water, minerals) be addressed?
- Content
 - Are there any views on the gaps in existing guidance identified in the Overview or Feasibility study?
 - In addition to those identified, are there additional gaps that could be addressed?
- Form
 - Should the instrument seek to offer comprehensive legal guidance on agricultural land investment contracts (so that users do not have to piece together such guidance from various existing instruments) or to fill particular gaps in existing guidance (while referring users to other instruments where applicable or useful)?
 - What form of instrument would be most useful (e.g. legal guide, model contractual or legislative provisions, a combination of those options)?

- Target audience
 - Who should be the target audience?
 - How could the instrument be crafted to maximise its usefulness for various audiences (e.g. international organisations, host governments, development agencies, investment promotion agencies, civil society, and the private sector)?
- Study Group
 - How would it be best for the Study Group to consult with civil society regarding the preparation of this instrument?