



**Model Law on Warehouse Receipts  
Work Plan 2020-2022**

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1. UNIDROIT and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) have approved a joint project to develop a Model Law on Warehouse Receipts. The project has been recommended by the Governing Council at its 99<sup>th</sup> session in May 2020 for inclusion in the UNIDROIT Work Programme for the period 2020-2022, as a high priority project. UNCITRAL's Commission approved the joint project at its 53<sup>rd</sup> session in September 2020.

2. The project will consist of two phases. First, UNIDROIT will lead the joint preparatory work through a UNIDROIT Working Group that will develop a first comprehensive draft Model Law on Warehouse Receipts over the period 2020-2022. Once the UNIDROIT Working Group has completed the draft Model Law text, the instrument will be submitted for intergovernmental negotiations through an UNCITRAL Working Group.

3. This document provides a work plan for the first phase of the warehouse receipts project led by UNIDROIT over the period 2020-2022.

**A. Timeline for the project**

4. To the extent possible, the preparatory work led by UNIDROIT shall be completed during the current Work Programme. The following is a tentative calendar, the effective execution of which may be affected by the evolution of the current extraordinary international context:

- (a) Preparation of the first draft for the Model Law over four in-person sessions 2020-2021
  - (i) First session: December 2020
  - (ii) Second session: March/April 2021
  - (iii) Third session: August/September 2021
  - (iv) Fourth session: December 2021 or January 2022
  - (v) It is envisaged that, in between in-person sessions, remote meetings may be conducted when deemed necessary. Given the extraordinary circumstances, one or more of the in-person meetings may be substituted by remote webinars.
- (b) Consultations and finalisation: first half of 2022
- (c) Adoption by the Governing Council of the complete draft to be sent to UNICTRAL at its 101st session in May 2022

5. A detailed work plan for the period 2020-2022 can be found in the [Annexe](#).

## **B. Organisation of the Working Group**

6. The Working Group will meet twice a year for two-three days. Meetings will be in Rome, unless external funding is provided to hold a meeting in a different location. Meetings will be held in English only without translation. Remote participation will be possible, although experts will be expected to attend in person if circumstances permit.

7. The following experts will be invited to participate in the Working Group:

- Eugenia Dacoronia, Professor of Civil Law, University of Athens (Greece) (Chair)
- Nicholas Budd, former partner and head of the Trade & Commodity Finance Groups, White & Case (France)
- Adam Gross, Director, Darhei Noam Limited (United Kingdom)
- Keith Mukami, Director, Head of Africa: Banking & Regulatory, CMS-RM Partners (South Africa)
- Dora Neo, Associate Professor and Director, Centre for Banking & Finance Law, National University of Singapore (Singapore)
- Jean-François Riffard, Professor of Civil Law, University Clermont Auvergne (France)
- Teresa Rodriguez De Las Heras Ballell, Associate Professor of Commercial Law, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Spain)
- Hiroo Sono, Professor of Law, University of Hokkaido (Japan)
- Andrea Tosato, Associate Professor of Commercial Law, University of Nottingham (United Kingdom); Lecturer in Law, University of Pennsylvania (USA)

8. The following parties will be invited to participate as observers (at their own cost):

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Organization of American States (OAS)
- Organisation for the Harmonisation of Business Law in Africa (OHADA)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United States Department of State
- World Bank Group (WBG)
- Private-sector
  - Association of General Warehouses, Mexico
  - Bsystems Limited
  - GrainChain Inc.
  - Indonesia Commodity & Derivatives Exchange
  - Information Services Corporation, Canada
  - International Warehouse Logistics Association
  - Kozolchyk National Law Center (NatLaw)
  - Sberbank Hungary Ltd.
  - Secured Finance Network
  - VOCA Consult

