



IMLI ALERT

UNCTAD VIRTUAL TRAINING COURSE ON 'IMPLICATIONS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC FOR COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS - INTERNATIONAL SALE OF GOODS ON SHIPMENT TERMS AND CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA'

The Institute wishes to bring to the notice of its readers that United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), will be hosting a virtual training course which will be offered on four sets of dates in May/June 2022. The Training Course is on *'Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for commercial contracts - International Sale of Goods on Shipment Terms and Carriage of Goods by Sea'*



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD

Participants are encouraged to register early, as places are limited. Priority will be given to participants from developing countries. Female participants are also particularly encouraged to register.

For more information on the Training Course and registration, please see the attached document.

Information about other related work by UNCTAD which may be of interest, including a number of reports and policy briefs, is also available at the UNCTAD website at: <https://unctad.org/ttl/legal>

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UNCTAD training course: Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for commercial contracts - International Sale of Goods on Shipment Terms and Carriage of Goods by Sea

The impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related response measures have resulted in significant operational disruptions and delays across global networks, with important implications for the performance of international commercial contracts. Much of global commodities' trade is conducted on CIF and FOB terms and more than 80% of the volume of global merchandise trade is carried by sea. Therefore, the implications of the pandemic for international sale of goods on shipment terms and contracts of carriage of goods by sea, as well as related contractual rights and obligations deserve particular attention and need to be better understood, to reduce the need for costly litigation and to help inform commercial contracting practice into the future.

As part of its COVID-19 related [technical assistance](#), UNCTAD has developed a four-day virtual training course focusing on some of the important implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for commercial contracts, in particular contracts for the international sale of goods on shipment terms CIF and FOB, and carriage of goods by sea under charterparties and bills of lading. The course is designed to help in the understanding and assessment of key issues arising from the pandemic for the different types of closely interconnected contracts; the relevant legal implications, as well as contractual approaches to addressing some of these, in particular through the use of standard form clauses for commercial risk-allocation between the parties.

Participation requires some legal background, and the course is particularly **aimed at legal professionals and advisers involved in negotiation of relevant contracts and/or providing advice in connection with related rights and obligations, claims or dispute resolution; as well as others involved in related training and continuing education, particularly in developing countries.**

The course will be delivered virtually, by a team of renown academic experts in International Maritime and Commercial Law. It will be offered on four occasions, to enable broad participation and accommodate participants in different time-zones.

[3 - 6 May 2022](#), 9:30-13:00 CEST, for participants in Asia, Africa, Europe

[10 - 13 May 2022](#), 15:00 - 18:30 CEST, for participants in Americas, Africa, Europe

[16 - 19 May 2022](#), 15:00 - 18:30 CEST, for participants in Americas, Africa, Europe

[7 - 10 June 2022](#), 9:30 - 13:00 CEST, for participants in Asia, Africa, Europe

Participants are encouraged to register early, as places are limited. **Priority will be given to participants from developing countries.** Female participants are also particularly encouraged to register.

Each course consists of four daily sessions (am or pm CEST) covering: international sale of goods on CIF and FOB terms and related payment mechanisms; time and voyage charterparties; specialist standard form 'pandemics' clauses and force majeure clauses; bills of lading and related cargo claims, including special considerations applicable in the context of charterparty bills. While participation in only some of the sessions is possible, only participants who complete the full course will receive a course certificate.

The training also draws on related analytical reports, which participants may wish to consult by way of background information and for additional guidance.

- [COVID-19 implications for commercial contracts: Carriage of goods by sea and related cargo claims](#)
- [COVID-19 implications for commercial contracts: International sale of goods on CIF and FOB terms](#)
- [Contracts for the carriage of goods by sea and multimodal transport: Key issues arising from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

For further details and information about UNCTAD's related work, see the [UNCTAD website](#). For substantive enquiries, please contact Ms. Regina Asariotis, Chief of the Policy and Legislation Section, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics; email: Policy.Legislation@unctad.org; regina.asariotis@un.org.