Towards a Repository of Possible Reform Options

In advance of the Expert Meeting on “The Transformation of the IIA Regime” UNCTAD launched a platform for sharing the outcomes of other initiatives that address IIA reform, by means of facilitating a “report-back” on these initiatives. Reporting may cover two types of initiatives:

- Meetings, including inter-governmental, academic or multi-stakeholder events that have addressed IIA (including ISDS) reform;
- Research projects or papers, that have addressed IIA (including ISDS) reform.

Report-backs are placed in the publicly accessible “repository” of reform-oriented proposals. While contributions that were received before 20 February fed into experts’ deliberation during the 25-27 February Expert Meeting, the repository remains online and available to the general public on the WIF website after the meeting; similarly, relevant additions to the repository will also be accepted over the course of 2015. For a submission to be posted, it must satisfy a basic level of quality and relevance.

To ensure relevance, a number of criteria guide the selection of meetings that qualify for report back (these criteria also apply to research projects or papers, mutatis mutandis).

1. Type of event: The event was held at the intergovernmental, academic or multi-stakeholder (including the private sector or civil society) level. Please note that this may also include multi-stakeholder working groups’ discussions on IIA reforms in formal or informal settings.
2. Topic of the event: The event or session(s) of the event directly address the issue of IIA reform or the reform of ISDS.
3. Outcome of the event: The outcome of the event offers concrete solutions – preferably in the form of action points – on how to address IIA or ISDS reform.
4. Who can submit reports: In principle, 2-page reports can be submitted by the organizer(s) of an event or by chairs, invited speakers and participants. Submissions by chairs, speakers or participants should be coordinated with and endorsed by the organizers of the event in order to prevent misrepresentation.
5. Further information: The person submitting a report back should provide a photo, the official title and affiliation of the person, a logo of the affiliation (if possible) and the title of the report. In case of submissions of organizations as such, please provide the name of the organization and its logo. This information will be displayed.
Report back will take place by means of submitting 2-pagers (word format) for uploading on UNCTAD’s WIF website. The document will be formatted by the UNCTAD Secretariat.

When preparing your 2-page report, please be guided by the following:

1. Rather than summarizing the event/project, the report should focus on concrete research findings, innovative and forward-looking ideas and proposals related to IIA, or ISDS reform that have been developed or presented at the event/project.
2. Please limit yourself to 2 pages; more detailed information can be supplied by means of endnotes or hyperlinks.
3. The aim of the 2-page report is to advance the discussions that were commenced at the IIA Conference “Reforming the International Investment Agreements Regime” at the World Investment Forum 2014 (16 October 2014). In this regard, we highly appreciate submissions which look at reform proposals towards achieving sustainable development and inclusive growth.

The title page of the submission should include the following information:

- Classify your event/research project according to the four general categories: intergovernmental, academic, multi-stakeholder or other
- Organizer of the event/research project
- Number of speakers and/or participants that were present at the event / that contribute to the research projects
- Date of the event/duration of the research project
- Location (city/country)
- Full title of the event/research project
- Format (e.g. panel discussion, workshop, training course, survey, empirical research etc.)
- Key message(s) or finding(s) regarding IIA or ISDS reform
- Weblink to the event’s page or research project/paper (if available)

If you wish to receive further information, please contact us at:

WIF_IIA_Conference@unctad.org
The opinions expressed in these papers are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the UNCTAD Secretariat or of its member States.

Click on your report of interest to download it

Reports Back from Meetings

- Centre for Conflict Resolution, Cape Town, South Africa: South Africa, Africa, and International Investment Agreements
- IISD: Eighth Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators
- IISD: Investment-Related Dispute Settlement: Reflections on a New Beginning
- Unil University of Lausanne: The Transformation of the International Investment Agreement Regime - The African Experience
Reports Back from Research Projects

- Ecologic Institute
  Senior Fellow
  Ms. Christiane Gerstetter
  CETA and TTIP Sparking Controversial Debates on Investment Protection in Germany

- EFILA
  European Federation for Investment Law and Arbitration
  Secretary General
  Mr. Nikos Lavranos
  EU law and investment treaty law: convergence, conflict, or conversation?

- CIGI
  International Law Research Program, Centre for International Governance Innovation
  Director
  Ms. Oonagh E. Fitzgerald
  CIGI ILRP First International Economic Law Consultation Workshop on Emerging Issues in International Trade and Investment Law

- BritishAmericanBusiness
  British American Business
  TTIP Adviser
  Ms. Elisabeth Roderburg
  ISDS - What Is It and the Arguments for and Against Including Such a Provision in a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Deal

- CAITISA
  Comisión para la Auditoría Integral Ciudadana de los Tratados de Protección Recíproca de Inversiones y del Sistema de Arbitraje en Materia de Inversiones
  Ecuadorian Citizens’ Commission for a Comprehensive Audit of Investment Protection Treaties and of the International Arbitration System on Investments (CAITISA)

- Investment & Human Rights Project
  Ms. Andrea Saldarriaga
  Ms. Andrea Shemberg
  IIAs and ISDS: achieving meaningful reform
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Dundee</th>
<th>Transforming the IIA Regime: Exiting the Unnecessary, Damaging Investor-State Dispute Settlement System</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Peter D. Cameron</td>
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<th>Jawaharlal Nehru University</th>
<th>Do We Need Special Rules for Energy Disputes?</th>
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<td>Mr. Biswajit Dhar</td>
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<th>University of Lausanne</th>
<th>India's Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements</th>
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<td>Mr. Tarcisio Gazzini</td>
<td></td>
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<th>Freie Universität Berlin</th>
<th>Foreign Investment in Africa: Gaining Development Momentum</th>
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<td>Mr. Steffen Hindelang</td>
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<th>World Bank Group</th>
<th>Investor-State Dispute Settlement and Alternatives of Dispute Resolution in International Investment Law</th>
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Rethinking the International Investment Law Regime
Mr. Simon Lester

Bridging the Gap between International Investment Law and the Environment
Ms. Yulia Levashova, LL.M.

Process Matters - South Africa’s Experience Exiting its BITs
Mr. Mohammed Mossallem

The Impact of International Investment Law on Government Behavior: Enabling Good Governance?
Ms. Mavluda Sattorova

International Investment Law and Comparative Public Law – Reconceptualizing Investment Law as International Public Law
Mr. Stephan W. Schill

Transformation of the International Investment Agreement Regime: a BRICS Perspective
Mr. Kavaljit Singh
Investment and development – friends or foes?

Mr. Christian J. Tams

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Mr. Ramon Torrent

International Investment Agreements Under Scrutiny – Bilateral Investment Treaties, EU Investment Policy and International Development

Ms. Rebecca Varghese Buchholz