DITC/CLP/Misc/2016/2 (16/199gd)

NOTIFICATION

First Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy Geneva, 17–18 October 2016

The first session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will be held on Monday, 17 October and Tuesday, 18 October 2016. The meeting will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, 17 October, in Room XVII of the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.

Background and purpose of the meeting

In line with General Assembly resolution 70/186 adopted on 22 December 2015, the consultations at the first session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will focus on the following topics:

- Launch of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection and discussions on related matters;
- Engagement of stakeholders for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: Leaving no consumers behind;
- Challenges and perspectives for the emerging collaborative economy;
- Capacity-building in consumer protection: Trends and challenges;
- Method of work and work programme for the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy for the period 2016–2020, including consultations and discussions regarding peer reviews on consumer protection law and policy, capacity-building and technical assistance on consumer protection law and policy.

Written contributions

To facilitate deliberations and the informal exchange of experiences and best practices on the topics to be discussed, member States and observers are requested to submit written contributions to the UNCTAD secretariat by **Friday 30 September 2016**.

Participation

Registration should be completed online. To do so, please use the following link: https://reg.unog.ch/event/5250/registration/register.

UNCTAD member States wishing to nominate experts to the session are requested to do so by **Friday, 30 September 2016**.

Specialized agencies and intergovernmental bodies wishing to participate in the session are requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by **Friday, 30 September.**

Non-governmental organizations in the general category that are interested in the work of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy and wish to participate as observers are also requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by **Friday**, 30 **September**.

All communications concerning representation should be sent to the Intergovernmental Support Service, UNCTAD, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, by fax: 41 22 917 0214 or e-mail: meetings@unctad.org

Logistics

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to collect their badges at the United Nations Security Service, Pregny Gate entrance, 14 avenue de la Paix. The Security Service is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Because of the security measures in force, participants are strongly advised to arrive before 9 a.m. in order to complete entry procedures in good time and proceed to the meeting in Building E of the Palais. Participants are requested to carry a passport or similar national identity card. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations; therefore, visitors will be dropped off at the entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service grants special clearance.

Further information and contact details

All other enquiries should be addressed to the coordinators in the substantive division; UNCTAD Secretariat, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services and Commodities; Tel. 41 22 917 1878; e-mail: jacqueline.bouvier@unctad.org or Tel. 41 22 917 46 20; email: maria.bovey@unctad.org.

(signed)

Mukhisa Kituyi Secretary-General of UNCTAD 20 September 2016