Contribution of Consumer Protection to Sustainable Consumption:

Consumer Protection Tools and Sustainable Development

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Consumer Protection Tools and Sustainable Development

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Introduction: from consumerism to sustainable consumption

A. Regulating the lifespan expectancy of consumer products and product obsolescence

B. Broadening the concept of product safety to cover risks of hazards to the environment.

C. Informing consumers about the impact of products or consumption patterns on sustainable development and the environment.
Product lifespan expectancy and obsolescence

- To develop a standardized evaluation method for measuring the lifespan of products and setting sustainability criteria
- To promote certification and consumer information schemes to attest the conformity of the product with such sustainability standards
- To provide for the legal obligation of manufacturers, importers and distributors to guarantee the durability of the product for a fixed period after being made available on the market.
- To provide for the legal obligation of manufacturers, importers and distributors to guarantee the repairability of the product
- To provide adequate information to consumers
- To sanction planned obsolescence
Product safety and hazards to the environment

- Commonly accepted definition of « unsafe » product
- Going beyond hazards to human health
Informing consumers

- Prohibition of deceptive or misleading environmental or sustainable development claims.
- Specific sustainable development-related disclosure requirements
- General pre-contractual obligation to inform