



**Eighth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Multilaterally
Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business
Practices**

19-23 October 2020
Geneva, Switzerland

**Roundtable: International enforcement cooperation among consumer
protection agencies in e-commerce**

**Thursday, 22 October (15:00 – 16:30)
Palais des Nations, Room XIX (Third floor)**

The [United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection \(UNGCP\)](#) approved by the General Assembly [resolution 70/186 of 22 December 2015](#) set out the basic principles and provide recommendations to enable consumer protection agencies to effectively enforce their respective laws and cooperate in cross-border cases with consumer protection agencies from other jurisdictions.

The second session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection law and policy (IGE 2017) mandated the secretariat “to further analyse the challenges faced by developing countries on consumer protection in e-commerce and recommend policy options for consumer protection agencies, guidelines 63 to 65”. Furthermore, the IGE emphasized the importance of regional consumer protection law enforcement cooperation; and encouraged consumer protection authorities to strengthen their bilateral, regional and international cooperation; and requests the UNCTAD secretariat to explore, gather and promote best practices for international cooperation, guidelines 79 to 94.

This session aims at discussing the importance of and challenges in cross-border enforcement cooperation in consumer protection. UNCTAD's Working Group on Consumer Protection in E-Commerce (WG) has discussed this issue among its members. During the IGE 2019, the Competition and Markets Authority of the United Kingdom and the Federal Trade Commission of the United States of America presented a [contribution on Cross Border Consumer Enforcement Toolkit](#) for consumer protection agencies and legislators. UNCTAD has been reflecting on this topic and has followed the discussions within OECD and ICPEN on this issue.

This session will provide an opportunity for member States to share their views, challenges, and experiences in cross-border cooperation, seeking to identify areas for future work by UNCTAD.

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WORK PROGRAMME

15:00 - 15:10 Presentation by the UNCTAD secretariat

15:10 - 16:00 International enforcement cooperation among consumer agencies

Speakers:

- Ms. María Carolina Corcione, Deputy Superintendent for Consumer Protection, Superintendence of Industry and Commerce, Colombia
- Mr. Francis Kariuki, Director General, Competition Authority of Kenya
- Mr. Jason Freeman, Director, Consumer Law, Competition and Markets Authority, United Kingdom
- Mr. Hugh Stevenson, Deputy Director, Office of International Affairs, Federal Trade Commission, United States of America

16:00 – 16:30 Interactive debate

Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Ms. Ebru Gokce-Dessemond (ebru.gokce@un.org) or Mrs. Elizabeth Gachuri (elizabeth.gachuri@un.org).