



## Webinar Best practices and experiences on consumer protection and gender

### UNCTAD Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender

17 May 2023, Geneva, Switzerland (CEST)

1 – 3 p.m. via Teams (English only)

The pandemic caused by the new coronavirus (2020) evidenced vulnerabilities in health, in access to products and services, and in terms of gender and consumers. Considering that the definition of "consumer" includes three relevant aspects: the disparity of technical knowledge, the discrepancy of economic power and the disparity of legal capacity it is possible to identify the difficulties faced by women as consumers. In other words, women as consumers, in addition to gender-related problems and challenges such as access to education and information, can also be considered vulnerable as consumers; or hypervulnerable –due to difficulties in accessing information, education and dispute resolution.

In addition to the impact of international trade on national economic policies, women as consumers are doubly impaired because they do not know or do not know how to claim their rights as consumers. Such a situation increases the inequality of rights between men and women, creating a vicious circle. Considering that the path to include gender in consumer protection policies remain a challenge, this webinar aims to discuss best practices and paths for improvement.

This event is organized within the framework of UNCTAD's [Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender](#).

**Note:** *This event is only open to Government participants of UNCTAD's Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender and member States representatives.  
Interpretation will not be provided for this meeting.*

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### Agenda

Geneva time (CEST):

**13:00 – 13:05**

#### Opening:

Ms. Teresa Moreira, Head of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD

**Moderator:** Ana Cipriano, Legal Officer, UNCTAD

**13:05 – 13:40**

#### Panel 1 Harmful gender norms perpetuated in advertising

##### Speakers:

- Simonetta Zarrilli, UNCTAD
- André Casimiro, DGC, Portugal
- Maria Catalina Giraudo, SERNAC. Chile
- Sebastián Barocelli, Professor, University of Buenos Aires (UBA)

##### General discussion

**13:40 – 14:20**

#### Panel 2 Product safety and inclusion by design

##### Speakers:

- Michelle Parkouda, Manager of Research at the Standards Council, Canada
- Natalie Attrill. General Manager, Risk Assessment and Operations | Consumer Product Safety Division
- Josephine Parmee, Consumers International
- Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director Women Engage for a Common Future (NGO)

##### General discussion

**14:20 – 14:55**

#### Panel 3 Consumer Financial Issues

##### Speakers:

- Rosa S. Morán, INDECOPI, Perú.
- Ximena Galicia, Profeco, México.
- Claudia Lima Marques (UFRGS)

##### General discussion

**14:55 – 15:00**

Conclusions by the moderator

*Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Ms. Ana Cipriano ([ana.cipriano@un.org](mailto:ana.cipriano@un.org)).*

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