

Minutes of 6th Meeting Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender September 6, 2023

The Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender held its sixth online meeting on September 6, 2023 (at 2 p.m. Geneva time). The meeting's objective was to discuss the Agenda for the renewed mandate and the dates for the next meetings.

The secretariat started the meeting by thanking the participation of member states and stakeholders at the first WG meetings following the Intergovernmental Group of Experts meeting held in July (3-4) when the mandate of this group was renewed. The secretariat also welcomed Luxembourg as a new member of this Working Group.

The meeting also counted on a special participation of the <u>United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)</u>, which presented <u>Financial Consumer Protection Work</u>, focused on policies and regulations regarding financial consumer protection as an essential part of improving financial inclusion. Working group participants were particularly interested in <u>Gender disaggregated data mapping tool</u>, acknowledging a gap regarding disaggregated data on consumer protection and gender.

The secretariat recalled that the WG mandate was renewed for another year, as per the IGE on consumer protection law and policy *Agreed Conclusions*:

12. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the working group on consumer protection and gender, to continue work on integrating the topic at the international, regional and national levels and to report on its continued work to the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy;

And that the Group should present proposals on how to tackle the topics of advertisement, product safety and financial issues to be discussed during the next meeting.

The WG also agreed on the following Agenda for the September 2023-June 2024 period.

The Working Group will meet every two months until the seventh session of the IGE (most probably in the first week of July 2024), as follows:

Dates	Remarks	
06 September 2023	First Meeting. WG Agenda approval and UNCDF presentation on	
	Financial Consumer Protection	
13 December 2023	Second Meeting. Review: Proposals of actions to tackle the chosen	
	topics: advertisement, product safety and financial issues.	
7 February 2024	Third Meeting.	
8 May 2024	Last Meeting. Organization: presentation WG results at the IGE 8th	
	Session	



More meetings may be called, if needed, upon request from participating member States.

The secretariat informed that the minutes of the meeting will be circulated for feedback.

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Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender 6 th Meeting – List of Participants			
Name	Organization	Country	
Paola Rubin	Undersecretary for Actions for the Defense of Consumers	Argentina	
Nadia Vassos	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	Australia	
Cindy Meadley	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	Australia	
Caroline Landry	Health Canada	Canada	
Nataly Rojas Cuellar	Superintendence of Industry and Commerce - SIC	Colombia	
Beth Jackson	Office for Product Safety and Standards, Department for Business and Trade	Great Britain	
Hernádi Júlia	Hungarian Competition Authority	Hungary	
Christina Schürr	Ministry for Consumer Protection	Luxembourg	
Ximena Galicia	PROFECO	Mexico	
Zenia Panduro	INDECOPI	Peru	
Ewa Sikorska	Office of Competition and Consumer Protection - UOKiK	Poland	
Carla Barata	Directorate General for Consumers of Portugal	Portugal	
Francisco Freitas	Directorate General for Consumers of Portugal	Portugal	
Emy Gustavsson	Swedish Consumer Agency	Sweden	
Damla Yeşeren ARAFAL	Ministry of Trade	Turkey	
Mehmet Emre Dilitatlı	Ministry of Trade	Turkey	
Omer Faruk Bilgic Turkey		Turkey	
Kutlu Köycü		Turkey	
Amy Pereira	Competition and Markets Authority	United Kingdom	
Laura da Costa Ferré	UDECO - – Ministry of Economy and Finance	Uruguay	
Marta Thinnes Enguídanos		European Commission	
Josephine Parmee		Consumers International	
Laura Best		International Expert	

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UNCTAD

Antonino Serra	International Expert
Ahmed Dermish	UNCDF
Alexandra De Carvalho	UNCDF
Friederike Rühmann	UNCDF
Sophie Falsini	UNCDF
Seharish Gillani	UNCDF
Darina Hernikova	UNCDF
Ana Cipriano	UNCTAD
Yves Kenfack	UNCTAD

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