



NOTIFICATION

Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Consumer Product Safety

04 November 2024, 10:00–18:00
Room XXII, E-Building of the Palais des Nations, Geneva

UNCTAD/DITC/MISC/2024
(cc/24/205)

Background and purpose of the meeting

In preparation for the upcoming Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, scheduled for July 2025 under the auspices of UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), a heightened focus must be placed on consumer protection, specifically on product safety. As recognized in the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection, one of the legitimate needs of consumers is protection from hazards to their health and safety.

The Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGE) on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, during its eighth session held in July 2024, reaffirmed the critical role of consumer protection in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Consumer protection ensures access to essential goods and services and safeguards consumers from fraudulent practices and harmful products while empowering them through education. The eighth session also acknowledged the pivotal role UN Trade and Development plays as the focal point for consumer protection within the United Nations, particularly in advancing discussions on consumer product safety, sustainable consumption, e-commerce, and online dispute resolution.

The upcoming Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Consumer Protection - Product Safety in November 2024 will serve as a preparatory forum for the 2025 Conference to further discuss the draft resolution on consumer product safety. This meeting will also explore institutional mechanisms and gather expert input to ensure a comprehensive approach to consumer safety. The outcomes will guide efforts to strengthen national, regional, and international consumer protection frameworks.

The meeting will be held in English only.



Participation

This meeting is open to all member States of UN Trade and Development. Other organizations, including specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in the general category may participate as observers.

Online registration at: [Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Consumer Product Safety](#) is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required for inclusion in the list of participants. Early registration before Friday 01 November is advisable so that timely approval may be received for the issuance of a ground pass to the Palais des Nations. Registration requires uploading an official letter of nomination to represent an organization at this meeting. For government representatives, a note verbale or an email from the permanent mission concerned in Geneva will suffice.

Further enquiries regarding registration should be sent to the UN Trade and Development secretariat, Intergovernmental Outreach and Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; fax: 41 22 917 0214; email: meetings@unctad.org

Logistics

The session will be held with physical participation in room XIX of the Palais des Nations. Remote interventions will be possible. The link to online participation will be sent to registered participants, at the email address used for registration, one day in advance of the start of the meeting.

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to scan their badges at the United Nations Security Service, Peace Gate entrance, (Place des Nations) Ariana, 1202 Geneva. As part of the new system at the United Nations Office at Geneva, participants will receive a digital badge consisting of their photo, a quick response (QR) code and the name and date of the meeting. The digital badge will be sent to each participant by email once they have been accredited by the meeting organizer and should be downloaded to a mobile telephone or other mobile device. Participants may also print the digital badge in order to use the QR code. 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 well in advance 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 with them. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations. Visitors should therefore be dropped off at the indicated entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service gives special clearance.

Further information and contact details

Substantive and other inquiries should be addressed to the UN Trade and Development secretariat, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch; fax: +41 22 917 0044; email: ana.cipriano@unctad.org

(Signed)

Luz Maria de la Mora
Director
Division on International Trade and Commodities
21 October 2024