# Online workshop on the role of businesses and consumers in strengthening consumer product safety under the project on "Strengthening Consumer Product Safety in Sub-Saharan African Countries"

3 November 2026, 10:00-13:00 (GMT+2)

Online

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| 10:00-10:20 a.m. | **Introduction**<br><br>**Opening remarks**<br>Speaker:<br>**Mr. Rémi Lang, Officer in charge, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD** |
| 10:20-10:40 a.m. | **Session 1: The United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety: the roles of businesses and consumers**<br>Speaker: **Ms. Akari Yamamoto-Bonenfant, Legal Officer, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD**<br>Description:<br>Introduction to the United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety, including the key principles and legal elements of an effective consumer product safety framework. |
| 10:40-11:20 a.m. | **Session 2: Business responsibility for consumer product safety: prevention, compliance and corrective action**<br>Speakers: |

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| | **Mr. Guillermo Zucal, Convenor of COPOLCO Working Group 24 on Consumer Safety**<br>**Ms. Etsuko Kugimiya, Executive Director and Chair of the Standardization Committee, Nippon Association of Consumer Specialists, Japan**<br>Description:<br>Practical approaches for businesses to prevent product safety risks, ensure compliance and traceability, and take appropriate action when safety problems arise. |
| 11:20-11:30 a.m. | Break |
| 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. | **Session 3: Empowering consumers: the role of consumer associations in product safety**<br>Speakers:<br>**Ms. Anindita Mehta, Vice-Chair of Consumers International**<br>**Prof. Thierry Burgoignie, UNCTAD Consultant**<br>Description:<br>This session will discuss the role of consumers and consumer associations in product safety, including identifying and reporting unsafe products and incidents, raising awareness of product safety risks, disseminating safety and recall information, and engaging with businesses and public authorities. |
| 12:10-12:50 p.m. | **Session 4: Cooperation in addressing unsafe products**<br>Speakers:<br>**Ms. Nathalie Cliquot, DG JUST, European Commission**<br>**Mr. Richard O'Brien, Executive Director Americas Region, Testing, Inspection, and Certification (TIC)**<br>Description:<br>This session will explore how businesses, consumer associations and public authorities can work together in ensuring product safety, including channels for reporting and information sharing, communication of safety risks, recalls and other corrective actions. |
| 12:50-1:00 p.m. | **Closing remarks**<br>Speaker: **Ms. Akari Yamamoto-Bonenfant, Legal Officer, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD**<br>Description:<br>Summary of the main discussions and next steps under the project. |