

**Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Informal
Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender
June 11, 2026**

The informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender held its 19th meeting on June 11, 2026, in two sessions at 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Geneva time to discuss the working group's report to the upcoming Intergovernmental Group of Experts meeting and its future.

The secretariat opened the meeting by thanking member States for their continued support on consumer protection and gender. It invited members involved in drafting the *Checklist on Consumer Protection and Gender* to provide updates on the document and its status.

Australia and the United Kingdom have informed that the draft is currently being reviewed by their respective governments. This is the final review to check its accordance with related national policies. The draft will probably not be ready in time for the upcoming [Intergovernmental Group of Experts meeting](#) on Consumer law and policy, taking place in Geneva from 6-8 July.

Colombia also stated that the draft Checklist on Consumer Protection and Gender has been approved by most government agencies. The country will soon hold national elections in July and August. These elections may affect the current approval of the proposed draft.

The secretariat informed participants about two ongoing research efforts of interest to the group. The first is the questionnaire supporting the update to the UNCTAD World Consumer Protection map ([World Consumer Protection Map Questionnaire](#)). The second supports research on consumer protection and gender, being conducted at the request of the Director of the Division on International Trade and Commodities ([Questionnaire Gender Responsive Consumer Protection – Insights and Policy Options – Fill out form](#)). The secretariat invited member States to contribute to these efforts. The results will be shared during the report of the informal Working Groups at the [Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, 9th session, UN Trade and Development \(UNCTAD\)](#).

Finally, the secretariat asked participants about their interest in continuing the work of the informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender, to which there was no opposition. The proposed text to be included in the Agreed Conclusions of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts meeting reads as follows:

“Decides to renew the mandate of the informal working group on consumer protection and gender to continue work on incorporating a gender perspective in consumer protection at the international, regional and national levels, by encouraging and sharing best practices and advance activities focused on advertising, consumer

product safety and financial services to report on its continued work to the tenth Intergovernmental Group of Experts meeting”

Participants emphasized the importance of continued collaboration, and the secretariat welcomed further engagement and contributions from member States and stakeholders.

The meeting minutes and related documentation of this working group will be made available on the dedicated UNCTAD webpage.

Informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender		
19th Meeting – List of Participants		
Name	Organization	Country
Nadia Vassos	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	Australia
Trish Heffernan	Health Canada	Canada
Gloria Isabel Ortiz Castañeda	SIC Colombia	Colombia
Nataly Rojas Cuellar	SIC Colombia	Colombia
Sara Vanessa Soto Romero	SIC Colombia	Colombia
Maria Fernanda Rodriguez	SIC Colombia	Colombia
Emiliano Arévalo	Defensoría del Consumidor	El Salvador
Vész Márton Ferenc	Ministry of Economy and Energetics	Hungary
Doroti Fregán	Hungarian Competition Authority	Hungary
Liliána Karmen Toth	Hungarian Competition Authority	Hungary
Mashal Saqib Zafar	Competition Commission of Pakistan	Pakistan
Kashif Bashir	Competition Commission of Pakistan	Pakistan
Aleksandra Mrozowska-Sroka	Office of Competition and Consumer Protection (UOKiK)	Poland
Henna Sidhu	Competition and Markets Authority	United Kingdom
Eleni Gouliou	Competition and Markets Authority	United Kingdom
Ana Cipriano		UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
Remi Lang		UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
Dachao Yang		UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)