

Joint EC-UNCTAD workshop: Building effective consumer product safety frameworks together

9 NOVEMBER 2021



Joint EC-UNCTAD workshop
9 November 2021 (13:00-15:30)
Remote participation

Interpretation: English and French

Target Audience: Countries in the process of developing their product safety frameworks

Building effective consumer product safety frameworks together

The United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection recognize consumers' right of access to non-hazardous products.¹ Following the successful first joint [EC-UNCTAD workshop](#) on "*Kick-starting consumer product safety: a worthwhile endeavour*" two issues came to the forefront for countries wishing to start building effective consumer product safety: legislative and policy frameworks; and cross-border and regional cooperation.

UNCTAD research² shows that general safety requirements and liability regimes embedded in laws, along with standards, are the cornerstone for setting up consumer product safety frameworks anywhere in the world. In parallel, cross-border and regional cooperation on product safety can bring many advantages and help use market surveillance resources more efficiently. In particular, government officials need to remain abreast of developments in neighboring countries to ensure known unsafe consumer products are not distributed across borders into their jurisdictions.³

This workshop will discuss these two basic building blocks for an effective consumer product safety framework.

¹ [A/RES/70/186](#)

² [TD/B/C.I/CPLP/12](#)

³ [UNCTAD/DITC/CPLP/MISC/2021/1](#) (official report TD/RBP/CONF.9/9)

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Programme

Moderated by Stephen Carroll, Business editor, France 24 and Pinuccia Contino, Head of Unit, Product safety and Rapid Alert System, DG JUST, European Commission

13:00 to 13:10

Welcoming words

- Mr. Didier Reynders, Commissioner for Justice and Consumers, European Commission
- Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary General, UNCTAD

13:10 to 14:10

Panel 1:

Legal frameworks for consumer product safety: where to start?

- Ms. Thezi Mabuza, Deputy Commissioner, National Consumer Commission, South Africa
- Ms. Tserendulam Shagdarsuren, Head of Consumer Protection Department of the Authority for Fair Competition and Consumer Protection, Mongolia
- Mr. Brahim Yahyaoui, Chief of Planning and Control Directorate for Consumer Protection, Market Surveillance and Quality, Morocco

14:10 to 14:20

Break

14:20 to 15:20

Panel 2:

Cross-border and regional cooperation: what benefits can it bring?

- Mr. Sebastián Barocelli, National Director for Consumer Protection, Argentina
- Mr. Nils Behrndt, Acting Deputy Director General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission
- Mr. Willard Mwemba, Acting Director of the COMESA Competition Commission

15:20 to 15:30

Conclusions and closure

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