



UNCTAD

**The Report of the Working Group on Modalities of the voluntary peer review exercises to
the fifth session of the
Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy**

June 2021

The [Eighth United Nations Conference on Competition and Consumer Protection](#), held from 19 to 23 October 2020, decided to establish a “*working group on modalities of UNCTAD voluntary peer review exercises, open to member States on a voluntary basis, without any financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations, to discuss and improve existing procedures and methodology, to report respectively to the nineteenth and fifth sessions of the Intergovernmental Groups of Experts on Competition and Consumer Protection laws and policies.*”

Since October 2020, the [Working Group on Modalities of the voluntary peer review exercises](#) (WGPR) held five online meetings. On [17 December 2020](#), the WGPR shared experiences, interests and concerns of UNCTAD’s voluntary peer reviews on consumer and on competition laws and policies. On [8 February 2021](#), the WGPR discussed a workplan until the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGE) on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, proposed by the UNCTAD secretariat. On [17 March 2021](#), the WGPR adopted its workplan focusing on discussing and improving existing procedures and methodologies of UNCTAD’s voluntary peer reviews on competition and on consumer protection laws and policies. The WGPR also discussed a document containing a [detailed picture of all stages of the current peer review process](#) prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat. On [3 May 2021](#), the WGPR discussed improvements proposed by member States, presented either as comments to the document containing a detailed picture of the current process or as a new proposal from several member States. On [21 June 2021](#), the WGPR exchanged views regarding comments/improvements received so far and decided to request an extension of its mandate to the fifth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy.

All minutes and documentation of the WGPR are available in the dedicated UNCTAD [webpage](#).