



Third Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Consumer Protection

22 to 23 January 2015, Geneva, Switzerland

Palais des Nations, Room XII (First Floor)

The Sixth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (Geneva, 8–12 November 2010) invited UNCTAD to convene two expert meetings on consumer policy between the Review Conferences, separate from the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy.

Following the first expert meeting held on 12 and 13 July 2012, *Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Consumer Protection: The interface between competition and consumer policies*, it was decided that UNCTAD should begin a consultation process on the revision United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection (UNGCP). As a result of this consultation and call for contributions, the UNCTAD secretariat produced the Implementation Report on the United Nations guidelines for Consumer Protection (1985 - 2013) (TD/B/C.I/CLP/23).

The Second Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Consumer Protection held on 11 and 12 July 2013 discussed the Implementation Report and its conclusions, and proposed the creation of four Working Groups (on e-commerce, financial services, other issues and implementation) that would feed into the UNCTAD Secretariat report on the Modalities for the Revision of the UNGCP to be submitted to the VII UN Review Conference to Review all Aspect of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices Set.

This additional Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Consumer Protection, which was planned under the regular work of the Secretariat and arising from the Doha Mandate, will be convened on 22 and 23 January 2015. The meeting will build on the outcome of the Report on Modalities for the Revision of the UNGCP, and discuss the 'Draft Resolution for consideration of the General Assembly' containing issues that have been highlighted by member States and stakeholders as candidates for a proposed inclusion in the Revision of the UNGCP. In order to engage the active participation of all experts, discussions be channelled through "structured sessions", covering all new proposals contained in the Annex of the Draft Resolution (Revised UNGCP) during the first day. The second day will be devoted to discussing the results of the consultations carried out in the previous day, followed by the discussion of the Draft Resolution as a whole.

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WORK PROGRAMME

Thursday 22 Jan.

- 09:00 – 10:00** Informal Group meetings
- 10:00 – 10:10** Opening of the Expert Group Meeting
- 10:10 – 11:00** Plenary session:
- Presentation of the conclusion of the UNCTAD secretariat Report on Modalities for the Revision of the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection and Draft Resolution for consideration by the General Assembly
 - Statements by delegates
- 11:00 – 12:00** *Structured session 1: Definitions and Scope of Application & Principles of Good Business Practices*
- Moderated by Teresa Moreira, Portugal
- 12:00 – 13:00** *Structured session 2 : Working Group on E-commerce*
- Moderated by Nathalie Homobono, France

LUNCH BREAK

- 13:00 – 15:00** Informal Group meetings
- 15:00 – 16:00** *Structured session 3: Working Group on Financial Services*
- Moderated by Sothi Rachagan (*tbc*), Malaysia
- 16:00 – 17:00** *Structured session 4: Working Group on Other Issues*
- Moderated by Juliana Pereira, Brazil and Rainer Metz, Germany
- 17:00 – 18:00** *Structured session 5: Working Group on Implementation)*
- Moderated by Mfa Obiang, Gabon

Friday 23 Jan.

09:00 – 10:00

Informal Group meetings

10:00 – 13:00

Opening of the Ad- Hoc Expert meeting

Welcome address by the Secretariat

Re-reading session 1: Definitions and Scope of Application & Principles of Good Business Practices

- Moderated by Teresa Moreira, Portugal

Re-reading session 2: Working Group on E-commerce

- Moderated by Nathalie Homobono, France

Re-reading session 3: Working Group on Financial Services

- Moderated by Sothi Rachagan (*tbc*), Malaysia

Re-reading session 4: Working Group on Other Issues

- Moderated by Juliana Pereira, Brazil and Rainer Metz, Germany

Re-reading session 5: Working Group on Implementation

Moderated by Mfa Obiang, Gabon

LUNCH BREAK

13:00 – 15:00

Informal Group meetings

15:00 – 16:30

Discussions on the Draft resolution

16:30 – 17:00

Conclusions of and further consultations on the recommendations for the revision of the UNGCP

Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Mr Arnau Izaguerri (arnau.izaguerri@unctad.org) and Dr Graham Mott (graham.mott@unctad.org).