



**Report on the informal working group on consumer protection and gender to the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices**

## I. Background

The [eighth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts \(IGE\) on Consumer Protection Law and Policy](#) held on 1 and 2 July 2024 decided to “renew the mandate of the 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 advancing and implementing the Gender inclusive Consumer Protection Checklist to integrate gender perspective in consumer protection, encourage and share best practices and advance activities focused on advertising, consumer product safety and financial services to report to the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set (UN Conference).”<sup>1</sup>

Since then, the informal WG on Consumer protection and gender held five online meetings. On 19 September 2024, the WG held the first meeting of the mandate 2024-2025, when members discussed and adopted the workplan until the 9<sup>th</sup> UN Conference. The activities listed in the agreed workplan were implemented as follows.

## II. Workplan activities

- **Broaden engagement and membership** regarding the activities of the informal Working Group
- A. Continue the work **of including the gender aspect in the World Consumer Protection Map** for the reference of member States
- B. Continue the work on **drafting a Checklist of actions** to include the gender perspective into the work of consumer protection agencies and related stakeholders.

The informal working group’s discussions on a draft Gender-Inclusive Consumer Protection Checklist were informed by contributions from member States, which shared relevant measures and actions as examples of good practices. In addition, the group compiled a repository of effective strategies implemented by member States to promote gender inclusivity in consumer protection.

## III. Mandate

The WGCPS agreed to propose to the 9th UN Conference that its mandate be renewed in the following terms:

*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 and to encourage and share best practices, and to report to the intergovernmental group of experts on consumer protection law and policy on its ninth session;

All minutes and documentation of the informal working group on consumer protection and gender are available in the dedicated UNCTAD webpage: <https://unctad.org/Topic/Competition-and-Consumer-Protection/working-group-on-consumer-protection-and-gender>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://unctad.org/board-action/action-intergovernmental-group-experts-consumer-protection-law-and-policy>.

