



Report on the informal working group on consumer product safety to the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy

I. Background

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](#), held on 7-11 July 2025, commended the significant contributions of the informal working group on consumer product safety (WGCPs) and reaffirmed the strong commitment to pursuing discussions on case studies and national and regional experiences, sharing knowledge and improving international cooperation in the area of consumer product safety, subject to the availability of resources.

Considering the liquidity crisis affecting the United Nations, it was decided that the number of meetings of each informal working group was reduced to a maximum of three until the Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGE) meetings in July 2026, including organizational meetings and/or webinars. During this work cycle, the WGCPs held three online meetings. On [18 November 2025](#), WGCPs participants discussed and adopted the workplan until the [ninth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy](#). The activities listed in the adopted workplan were implemented as follows.

II. Workplan activities

- [United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety](#): following the adoption of the United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety by the United Nations General Assembly A/RES/80/119 the WGCPs supported preparations for their launch at the ninth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy. WGCPs participants were invited to provide comments and suggestions for the organization of the launch session and other dissemination activities.
- [Handbook on Consumer Product Safety](#): the European Commission and UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) joined forces to produce the first UNCTAD Handbook on Consumer Product Safety under the project "[Handbook and training on consumer product safety](#)". The Handbook is intended to serve as a practical guide designed to assist policymakers and regulators in strengthening national frameworks and aligning with international best practices. A draft of the Handbook was circulated to WGCPs participants for written comments, and two consultation meetings were held on 5 May 2026 to present the draft, review feedback received, discuss questions and clarifications, and collect additional examples from participants. Contributors will be acknowledged in the Handbook. The Handbook will be briefly presented on 7 July 2026 during the launch of the United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety at the [ninth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy](#).



- **Joint European Commission-UNCTAD workshop:** the sixth edition of this



initiative was held on 10 December 2025 in Brussels and online under the title: From Resolution to Action – Implementing the UN Principles on Consumer Product Safety. The workshop brought together experts, policymakers and stakeholders to discuss the implementation of the United Nations Principles and the content of the Handbook on Consumer Product

Safety. The opening session and panel discussion were followed by breakout discussions on information to consumers and international cooperation; regulation, standards and responsibilities of authorities; business engagement and multi-stakeholder cooperation; risk identification, assessment and corrective measures; and engaging new product safety authorities. The speakers and moderators included:

- Ms. Pinuccia Contino, Head, Product Safety and Rapid Alert System Unit, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission
- Ms. Teresa Moreira, Head, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Ms. Quyn Anh Nguyen, Vice Chair, Competition Commission, Viet Nam
- Mr. Hardin Ratshisusu, Acting Commissioner, National Consumer Commission, South Africa
- Dr. Willard Mwemba, Chief Executive Officer, Competition Commission, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Mr. Arnau Izaguerri, Legal Officer, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD
- Mr. Mykyta Sobko, European Consumer Organisation (BEUC)
- Ms. Yvonne Stein, Deputy Director, Consumer Policy Division, Ministry of Finance, Sweden
- Ms. Marie Gerardy, Legal and Policy Officer, European Commission
- Mr. Paulo Coscarelli, Technology Researcher, National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (INMETRO), Brazil
- Ms. Myriam Denieul, Legal and Policy Advisor, European Commission
- Mr. Martijn Duinkerke, Senior Inspector, Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority
- Ms. Ana Cipriano, Legal Officer, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD

- **[Webinar on consumer product safety in informal markets](#)**: took place online



on 14 April 2026. The webinar addressed challenges related to unsafe consumer products in informal markets, both online and offline, including social media transactions, informal sellers, illegal trade, counterfeit products and limited traceability. It provided an opportunity to exchange national and stakeholder experiences on oversight,

enforcement, consumer awareness, business responsibility and international cooperation. The speakers in the session were:

- Mr. Valnei Cunha, Head of the Inspection Division, Directorate of Conformity Assessment, INMETRO, Brazil
- Ms. Daniela Nicol Parra Aguero, Head of the Consumer Safety and Sustainability Unit, National Consumer Service (SERNAC), Chile
- Mr. Jaime Bravo, Technical Studies Officer, SERNAC, Chile
- Mr. Dong-eun Lee, Deputy Director, E-Commerce Monitoring Team, Market Surveillance Bureau, Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC), Republic of Korea
- Mr. Richard O'Brien, Executive Director Americas Region, Testing, Inspection and Certification Council (TIC Council)

The [report](#) and [video recording](#) of the webinar are available on the event page.

- **Meeting on organizational aspects**: on 9 June 2026, the WGCPS held its final meeting of the 2025–2026 work cycle in two online sessions. Participants were updated on the progress of the [Handbook on Consumer Product Safety](#) and on preparations for the launch of the [United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety](#) at the [ninth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy](#). Participants supported the renewal of the mandate of the WGCPS and considered proposed wording for the draft agreed conclusions of the ninth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy. They also exchanged views on possible topics for the next work cycle, including implementation of the United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety and the Handbook on Consumer Product Safety, digital tools for product safety enforcement, product recalls, risk-based market surveillance, testing and certification, investigations in digital markets, and coordination with other international fora.

III. Mandate

The WGCPS agreed to propose to the ninth session of the IGE on Consumer Protection Law and Policy that its mandate be renewed in the following terms:



Decides to renew the mandate of the informal working group on consumer product safety to continue work on strengthening consumer product safety frameworks at the regional and national levels, assisting in the implementation of the United Nations Principles for Consumer Product Safety, and improving international cooperation to protect consumers from hazards to their health and safety, and to report to the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy;

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

