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*Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Law and Policy*  
*(IGE Consumer)*

2nd SESSION  
3-4 July 2017  
Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Monday, 3 July 2017  
Afternoon Session

**Framework for voluntary peer reviews on consumer protection law  
and policy**

Presentation by  
Mr. Rajan Dhanjee  
Global Traders Conference

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON  
CONSUMER PROTECTION – SECOND SESSION

*PANEL ON FRAMEWORK FOR VOLUNTARY PEER REVIEWS ON  
CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW AND POLICY*

PRESENTATION BY RAJAN DHANJEE, GLOBAL TRADERS CONFERENCE

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

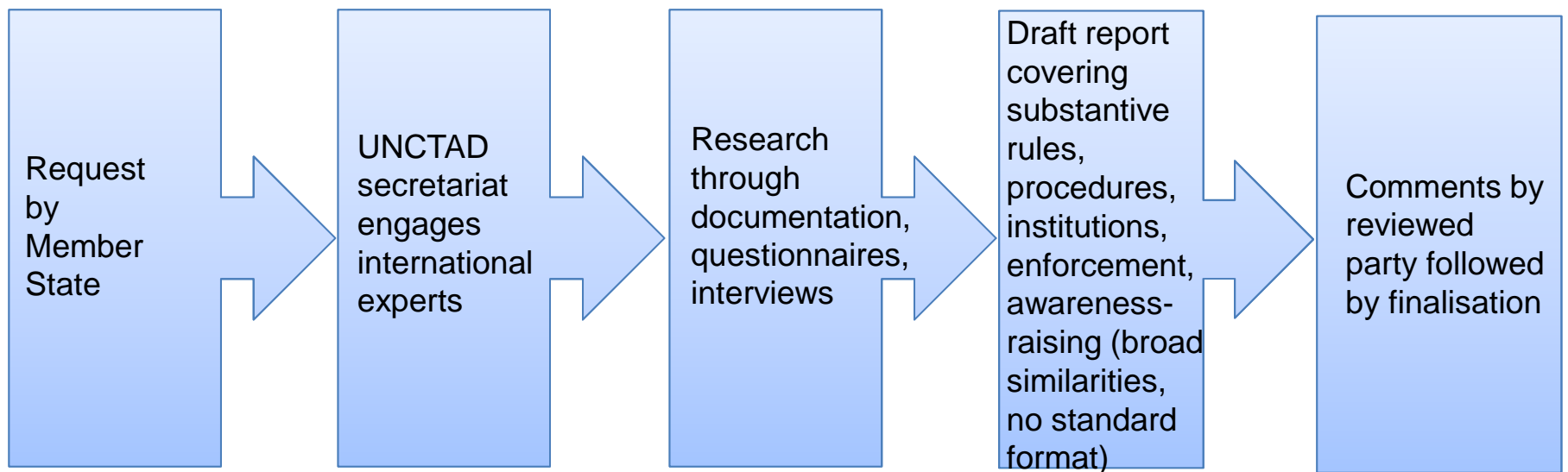
## POINTS COVERED

- Framework for voluntary peer reviews (VPRs):
  - Objectives
  - Methodology and scope
- Self-assessments (SAs) and VPRs:  
relationship and comparison
- Templates elaborated by IGE
- Training for pioneers

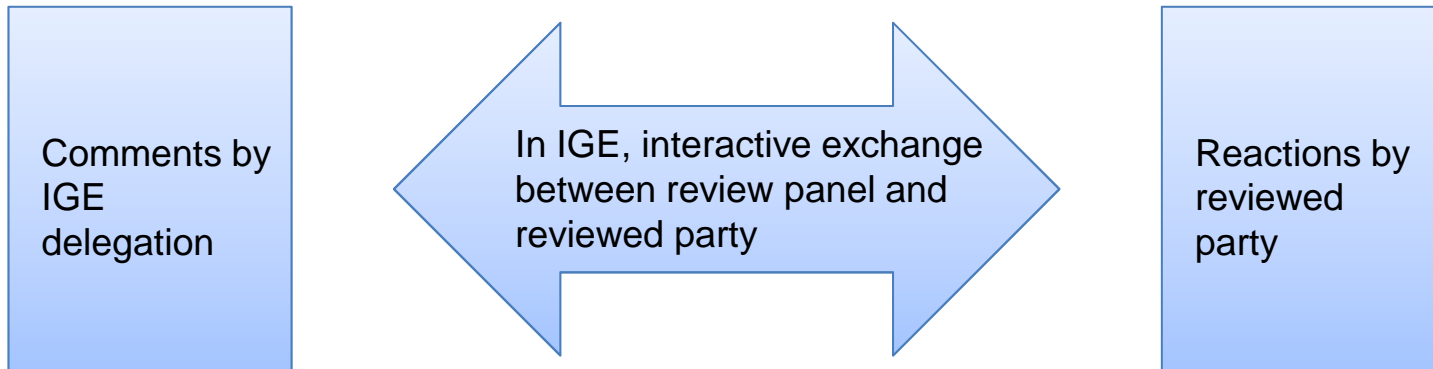
## VPR OBJECTIVES

- External independent assessment
- Greater visibility, public awareness, policy coherence, stakeholder participation, political support, international recognition
- Identification of challenges
- National & international information-sharing
- Recommendations for improvement
- Facilitate obtaining and targeting of technical assistance
- Enhanced policy quality, focus, effectiveness
- Consensus-building on good practice
- Long-term facilitation of cooperation

# VPR METHODOLOGY & SCOPE



# VPR METHODOLOGY & SCOPE



Secretariat then prepares project document, looks for donors, holds national seminars to disseminate VPR results, supports & advises

## SAs and VPRs: relationship and comparison

Should SAs precede, succeed, complement or reinforce VPRs, or stand alone?

Differences in:

- objectives?
- scope?
- methodology?
- expertise/independence/quality/credibility?
- understanding of local situation/presence/contacts?
- ownership/commitment to implementation?
- capacity-building?
- resources?

## TEMPLATES

- So IGE could elaborate sets of questions and issues (templates) on specific consumer topics as international benchmarks to guide SAs:
  - Building on suggestions made during 1<sup>st</sup> IGECPLP
  - Reflecting UN Guidelines and drawing on Manual on Consumer Protection
  - Mini and maxi options
  - Implementation on stand-alone basis or integrated within VPRs
  - Desirable but not obligatory to place stand-alone SAs before IGE
- Adherence to templates helps enhance and reassure on independence and quality – while country retains discretion on whether to undertake SA, review scope and methodology in line with its specific issues/conditions, in-house or mandated local expert to make assessment report, membership of IGE review panel, dissemination, implementation



## TRAINING FOR PIONEERS

To launch SA exercise, training needed on how to use templates to prepare good SAs, providing demonstration models to encourage more SAs:

- Secretariat could provide backup to pioneer SAs, e.g. given suggestions during 1<sup>st</sup> IGECPLP, could advise on data-gathering and analysis, effects of regional arrangements, road-maps to implement recommendations
- IGE could undertake reviews (facilitated by greater uniformity induced by use of templates) of both stand-alone SAs and those integrated within VPRs, using same procedures as standard VPRs, with strong initial focus on methodology
- Donors could consider supporting preparation/presentation to IGE of pioneer SAs, dissemination and implementation of recommendations

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION