

**Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer
Protection Law and Policy, First Session**

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**Contribution
by
MPG India (NGO)**

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of
UNCTAD

Submissions by Mumbai Grahak Panchayat - India

IGE on Consumer Protection & UNGCP:

Session 1- Launch of UNGCP :

Greetings from Mumbai Grahak Panchayat (MGP- INDIA)

MGP is happy to share its experience of implementation of revised UNGCP-2015 in India with the help and active support of Government of India.

MGP PERSUADES INDIAN GOVERNMENT FOR TASK FORCE ON UNGCP: On the occasion of World Consumer Rights Day function organized by the Govt of India, MGP made a presentation on “ UNGCP- A Way Forward” and urged the Govt to set up a Task Force to ensure effective implementation of the revised UNGCP in India. The Hon’ble Minister for Consumer Affairs responded positively and promised to set up such Task Force. This promise was followed by a Notification dated 29th July 2016 setting up the Task Force. The Task Force is headed by the Jt. Secretary, Dept of Consumer Affairs and comprises of representatives from five leading Consumer Bodies, two representatives from Trade & Industry and two representatives from Enforcement Agencies. The Task Force has become functional and so far had its two meetings in Delhi to chart out future plan of action.

The Task Force has assigned the various Chapters in the Revised UNGCP to its various members who have presented papers highlighting the existing status, the institutional framework, gap analysis and the way forward for each Chapter in the UNGCP. In the coming few months, the Task Force will prioritize the issues and the topics that warrant top most priority for implementation.

MGP PERSUADES MAHARASHTRA GOVT. FOR CONSUMER POLICY: MGP is further pleased to share information that it also took up the matter at the State level in India and effectively persuaded Maharashtra Government to initiate steps to frame State Consumer Policy, keeping in mind the Revised UNGCP. The Govt of Maharashtra constituted a Committee of experts including a Representative from MGP to draft the State Consumer Policy for Maharashtra. The Committee has made significant progress in drafting the Consumer Policy and the same is awaiting Chief Minister’s final approval.

MGP SUBMITS SCHEME FOR VULNERABLE SECTION BASED ON UNGCP: MGP also submitted, in its annual budget (2016- 17) proposal, Rs. 100 million Scheme to Govt of Maharashtra, for supply and distribution of

essential commodities to vulnerable section of the society at affordable prices, based on UNGCP Guideline Chapter E – clause 36 (a) & (b).

It needs to be mentioned that the Govt of India has demonstrated keen interest in sensitizing the revised UNGCP and committed itself to ensure effective implementation of the UNGCP in India in wider consumer interest.

The initiatives of Govt of India in setting up the Task Force for implementation of revised UNGCP and the initiative by State of Maharashtra to draft Consumer Policy are worthy of emulation by any other Member Nation of UN.

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