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

Geneva, 17-18 October 2016

Contribution by UNCTAD

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

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

INTERGOUVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CONSUMER PROTECTION First session, 17 and 18 October 2016 Geneva, Switzerland

ROUND TABLE ON CAPACITY BUILDING IN CONSUMER PROTECTION PRESENTATION BY THE SECRETARIAT

Monday 17 October 2016

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. UNCTAD'S MANDATE ON CAPACITY-BUILDING IN CONSUMER PROTECTION

2. UNCTAD'S GLOBAL STRATEGY IN CAPACITY BUILDING

3. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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1. UNCTAD'S MANDATE ON CAPACITY-BUILDING IN CONSUMER PROTECTION

Section VII (B (e)) of the Resolution on Consumer Protection adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2015 requested UNCTAD "to provide capacity-building and technical assistance to developing countries and economies in transition in formulating and enforcing consumer protection laws and policies.

2. UNCTAD'S GLOBAL STRATEGY IN CAPACITY BUILDING

• To ensure buy-in and commitment by beneficiary countries, all activities are planned and implemented with involvement by their competition and consumer protection agencies and other national, regional and global networks where appropriate.

2. UNCTAD'S GLOBAL STRATEGY IN CAPACITY BUILDING cont..

- The strategy focuses on the following:
- technical assistance for competition and consumer protection policy and regulation;
- Creating an enabling environment for the private sector;
- Competition neutrality;
- Expanded regional focus; and

Follow-up and impact assessment of activities.

2. UNCTAD'S GLOBAL STRATEGY IN CAPACITY BUILDING cont..

- Competition and consumer protection policies cross-cut these areas and seek to promote stable economic conditions, strengthen competitiveness, support trade diversification, mobilize domestic and foreign investment and improve basic infrastructure.
- Emphasis is placed on private sector development as a tool for promoting growth and reducing poverty.

3. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) What are the current needs in capacity building on consumer protection at national and regional level?

(b) What experience can we learn from the most successful existing capacity building initiatives on consumer protection?

(c) What role UNCTAD play in this area in the multilateral arena?

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