



UNCTAD

| |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Minutes of Meeting Working Group on Consumer Product Safety, March 27th- 28th, 2019</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

As indicated in its concept note, the purpose of this Working Group (“WG”) is to provide a forum for member States representatives and relevant stakeholders interested in exchanging experiences about mechanisms to detect, minimize, and tackle the risks for consumers health and safety due to defective products.

The WG held its first conference call on November 6th, 2018 when the participants decided: a) to work on the definition of safety product by sharing information on existing legal definitions; especially considering the ones adopted by OECD and the European Union; b) to work on the classification of the goods that would be subject of the WG excluding food and medicine; c) to work on goods for children and vulnerable groups of consumers.

In January 18th, 2019 in its second WG meeting, participants explain the challenges faced by developing countries on surveillance and early detection the unsafety products, such as: a) high levels of informality in developing countries’ markets make difficult the surveillance, b) many authorities with overlapped competences related to consumers’ health and safety products, c) the lack of information of accidents and injuries caused by products avoid authorities taking early actions, d) the legal framework of some countries needs to improve in order to restrict products that were rejected in other countries, e) the expansion of e-commerce and the Internet of things require the analysis of new risks for consumers and f) the necessity of making recalls more effective.

Taking into consideration some requests and in order to include a larger number of Member States taking part in the working group, UNCTAD organized two different days and time for the 3rd conference call. The first one on 27 March 2019 at 8.30 a.m. (GVA time), which counted with the participation of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. The other conference call happened on 28 March 2019 at 04.00 p.m. (Geneva time). During the WG meetings, member states agreed as follows:

- Participants agreed to provide the Secretariat with information on the challenges faced by developing countries on surveillance and early detection of unsafe products and the analysis and determination of possible policy options for consumer protection agencies.
- The Secretariat reminded member states on the Consumer World Map (<https://unctadwcpm.org>) tool that is being developed, which includes information on consumer product safety and invited member states to provide information through the official channels.
- Members states have agreed to work on a common schedule to deliver results for the purposes of the IGE Consumer meeting, which shall refer to activities of a steering committee.

We encourage all participants of this group shall send their contributions until April 30th.



UNCTAD

| Working Group on Consumer Product Safety | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 3rd Meeting – List of Participants | | |
| Name | Organization | Country |
| Richard O'Brien | CPSC | United States |
| Manuel Carbó | | Spain |
| Jose I. Viton | | Spain |
| Antonino Serra Cambaceres | Consumers International | |
| Ayanda Ziyane | Eswatini Competition Commission. Consumer Protection Department | Eswatini |
| Carolina Corcione | Deputy Superintendence for Consumer Protection of the Superintence of Industry and Commerce | Colombia |
| Beatriz de Morra | National Directorate for Consumer Protection | Argentina |
| Cecilia Lotto | National Directorate for Consumer Protection | Argentina |
| Pedro | Inmetro | Brazil |
| Pinuccia | | |
| Eva | | |
| | European Commission | |
| Marvin Santos | Defensoría del Consumidor | El Salvador |
| Joscelyn Mora | Acodeco | Panamá |
| Rafael Regla | Profeco | Mexico |
| Thezi Mabuza | National Consumer Commission | South Africa |