



## **Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy**

First session, 17 and 18 October 2016, Geneva, Switzerland

### **Round table: Engaging stakeholders for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals – leaving no consumer behind**

**Monday, 17 October 2016 (12–1 p.m.)**  
**Palais des Nations, Room XVII (first floor)**

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring the protection of consumers is a shared responsibility among all stakeholders – States, businesses and consumers. Their transformative potential must be unleashed in a coordinated manner, in order for society as a whole to benefit from vibrant markets. Governments may need to assume a coordinating role and empower consumers and businesses to become drivers of change, while maintaining vigilance with regard to the protection of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers.

This round table will address how such empowerment may be brought into action to fulfil Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

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To facilitate discussion, the secretariat proposes the following issues:

- (a) What are the responsibilities of Governments, consumer organizations and businesses in promoting consumer empowerment?
- (b) What are the best practices in consumer protection advocacy and business compliance?
- (c) What are the needs and priorities of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers?
- (d) Between energy, public utilities and tourism, which is the most important in achieving empowerment?

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#### **Work programme**

**12–12.40 p.m.      Panel discussion**

##### **Moderator**

Ms. Anna Y Popova, Head, Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection, Russian Federation

##### **Panellists**

- Mr. José Luís Laquidara, National Directorate for Consumer Defense, Argentina
- Mr. Bob Boelema, Authority for Consumers and Markets, Netherlands
- Mr. Pradeep Mehta, Secretary-General, Consumer Unity and Trust Society, India
- Ms. Claudia Lima Marques, Committee on International Protection of Consumers, International Law Association

**12.40–1 p.m.      Interactive debate**

Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Mr. Pierre Horna ([Pierre.Horna@unctad.org](mailto:Pierre.Horna@unctad.org)).