

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy

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

Round Table on "Capacity building in Consumer Protection: Challenges and Perspectives"

Monday 17 October 2016 (4.30 - 6 pm)
Palais des Nations, Room XVII (First Floor)

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."¹ In order to facilitate deliberations, the note by the UNCTAD secretariat on "Review of capacity-building in and technical assistance on competition and consumer policies"² provides some considerations on these issues. Taking into consideration UNCTAD new global strategy on competition and consumer policies this round table discussion will address the following issues:

- (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?

¹ A/RES/70/186, P 18

² TD/B/C.I/CPLP/3

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WORK PROGRAMME

- 4.30 - 4.40 pm** **Presentation by UNCTAD secretariat**
- 4.40 - 5.20 pm** **Panel discussion**
- Ms. Deon Woods, Federal Trade Commission, United States of America
 - Mrs. Dr. A.Popova, Russian Federation
 - Ms Cécile Barayre, UNCTAD, DTL
 - Mr. Tarek Younes, Acting Consumer Protection Director, Lebanon
 - Mr. Khouanchay Lemsouthi, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR
- 5.20 - 6 pm** **Interactive debate**
- The panel discussion will be followed by interactive debate, including interventions by:
- Mr. Pahouinde Kologo, Director, Competition and Consumer Commission, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Handicrafts, Burkina Faso
 - Ms Maricruz Goñi Díaz, Head of the Department of Consumer Support, Costa Rica
 - Ms Margareta Davidson-Abdelli, Counsellor, Embassy of Sweden

Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Mr. Yves Kenfack (yves.kenfack@unctad.org)