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**Trade and Development Board
Trade and Development Commission
Intergovernmental Group of Experts on
Consumer Protection Law and Policy**
Fifth session
Geneva, 5 and 6 July 2021
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

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4. Latest developments in legal and institutional frameworks: UNCTAD world consumer protection map.
5. Report of the working groups on:
 - (a) Consumer product safety: modalities for the prevention of cross-border distribution of unsafe consumer products;
 - (b) Consumer protection in electronic commerce.
6. Report of the working group on modalities of UNCTAD voluntary peer reviews of competition and consumer protection law and policy.
7. Consumer protection needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers in connection with public utilities.
8. Consumer law, policy and regulatory actions in response to and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.
9. Voluntary peer review of consumer protection law and policy of Chile.
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11. Provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy.
12. Adoption of the report of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy.



II. Annotations

Item 1

Election of officers

1. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-Cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts may wish to adopt the provisional agenda reproduced in chapter I above.

3. It is proposed that the opening plenary meeting of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts, which will start at 10 a.m. on Monday, 5 July 2021, be devoted to procedural matters (items 1 and 2 of the provisional agenda) and introductory statements. The closing plenary meeting, on Tuesday, 6 July 2021, will be devoted to the adoption of the provisional agenda of the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts and to the adoption of the report of the fifth session (items 11 and 12). In view of the short duration of the session, the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur will be authorized to complete the final report after the conclusion of the session.

4. The remaining meetings, from 5 July to the afternoon of 6 July, can be devoted to the substantive issues under items 3 to 10 of the provisional agenda. If necessary, the adoption of the report may be postponed until the late afternoon of 6 July, to allow for an informal working session to be held that afternoon.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CPLP/21

Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3

Report on the implementation of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection by member States and relevant stakeholders

5. In accordance with paragraph 97 (a) of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection as adopted on 22 December 2015 in United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/186 (annex), the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will hear an oral report by member States and relevant stakeholders on the implementation of the guidelines.

Items 4, 5 and 6

Latest developments in legal and institutional frameworks: UNCTAD world consumer protection map; report of the working groups on: (a) consumer product safety: modalities for the prevention of cross-border distribution of unsafe consumer products; and (b) consumer protection in electronic commerce; and report of the working group on modalities of UNCTAD voluntary peer reviews of competition and consumer protection law and policy

6. In accordance with paragraphs 11, 16 (b), 27, 29 and 30 of resolution A and the recommendation on preventing cross-border distribution of known unsafe consumer products adopted by the Eighth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (TD/RBP/CONF.9/9), the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on

Consumer Protection Law and Policy will hear oral reports by the secretariat on the latest developments in legal and institutional frameworks (UNCTAD world consumer protection map); the working group on modalities of UNCTAD voluntary peer reviews of competition and consumer protection law and policy; the working group on consumer protection in e-commerce and the working group on consumer product safety. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts is expected to decide on future work.

Items 7 and 8

Consumer protection needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers in connection with public utilities; and consumer law, policy and regulatory actions in response to and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic

7. In accordance with subparagraphs 34 (a) and (b) of resolution A adopted by the Eighth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will consider the secretariat background notes entitled “Consumer protection needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers in connection with public utilities” (TD/B/C.I/CPLP/22) and “Consumer law, policy and regulatory actions in response to and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic” (TD/B/C.I/CPLP/23), will hear presentations by the secretariat on the main findings of the said reports, and hold a round-table discussion on each of the topics.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CPLP/22	Consumer protection needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers in connection with public utilities
TD/B/C.I/CPLP/23	Consumer law, policy and regulatory actions in response to and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic

Item 9

Voluntary peer review of consumer protection law and policy of Chile

8. In accordance with paragraphs 15 and 16 (a) of resolution A adopted by the Eighth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will conduct a voluntary peer review of the consumer protection law and policy of Chile. The full report of the peer review will be made available (UNCTAD/DITC/CPLP/2021/1) and, to facilitate discussion of the report, an overview will be made available in all languages (TD/B/C.I/CPLP/24).

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CPLP/24	Voluntary peer review of consumer protection law and policy of Chile: Overview
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Item 10

Review of capacity-building in and technical assistance on consumer protection law and policy

9. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy will consider the secretariat report entitled “Review of capacity-building in and technical

assistance on competition and consumer protection laws and policies” (TD/B/C.I/CPLP/25–TD/B/C.I/CLP/60) and will hear a presentation by the secretariat on the main activities implemented and on projects currently under way, as well as contributions from representatives of beneficiary countries and donor agencies.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CPLP/25– TD/B/C.I/CLP/60	Review of capacity-building in and technical assistance on competition and consumer protection laws and policies
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Item 11
Provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy

10. Acting in its capacity as the preparatory body for the sixth session, the Intergovernmental Group of Experts is expected to agree on the provisional agenda for the next session.

Item 12
Adoption of the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy

11. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy will adopt its report to the Trade and Development Commission.

Experts are requested to advise of their intention to submit papers and contributions to the UNCTAD secretariat as soon as possible before Friday, 30 April 2021. Written papers and contributions must be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat by Monday, 31 May 2021.

For further information, please contact Mr. Arnau Izaguerri Vila, Economic Affairs Officer Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD (email: arnau.izaguerri@un.org).