

WORKPLAN 2024-2025

Informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender

August 2024

The current document contains the proposed work plan for the informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender, to be discussed and possibly adopted at the 12th meeting of the Working Group of 19 September 2024 at 8.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Geneva time.

Background

The secretariat submitted the [Report of the Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender to the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, June 2024 \(unctad.org\)](#).

As contained in its Agreed Conclusions, the eighth session of the Intergovernmental group of experts on consumer protection law and policy (IGE) (TD/B/C.I/CPLP/42, forthcoming), held on 1 and 2 July 2024, adopted the following regarding consumer protection and gender and the mandate of this informal working group:

12. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the informal working group on consumer protection and gender, to continue work on encouraging the incorporation of a gender perspective into consumer protection at the international, regional and national levels by advancing a gender-inclusive consumer protection checklist and on encouraging and sharing best practices and advance activities focused on advertising, consumer product safety and financial services and to report on its continued work to the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set;

Based on the work carried out by the informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender (2022-2024ⁱ), and the recent mandate received by the IGE, the workplan for 2024-2025 until the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices is focused on the following activities:

1. Broaden engagement and membership regarding the activities of the informal Working Group
2. Continue the work of including the gender aspect in the World Consumer Protection Map for the reference of member States
3. Continue the work on drafting a Checklist of actions to include the gender perspective into the work of consumer protection agencies and related stakeholders.
4. Organise and deliver a Webinar on Consumer Protection and gender to promote the topic's relevance on the occasion of the International Women's Day (March 8, 2025).

Proposed workplan 2024-2025

The Working Group will meet every two months until the 9th United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, as follows:

Dates	Remarks
19 September 2024	First Meeting of the 2024-2025 term. Approval of Workplan and Review of the proposed Checklist draft
19 November 2024	Second Meeting: Review of proposed Checklist following inputs from member States and second round of consultations
30 January 2025	Third Meeting: discussion of provided examples and feedback on consultations. Review of Women's Day Webinar proposal and organization
08 March 2025	Proposed Webinar on International Women's Day
24 April 2025	Fourth Meeting: Review of the Checklist status and next steps for the 9 th United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices.
12 June 2025	Final meeting before the 9 th United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed

More meetings may be called, if needed, upon request from participating member States.

Outcomes

The secretariat will report orally the discussions of the informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender to the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices.

Any recommendation/instrument/proposal/handbook/toolkit developed and agreed by the members of the informal Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender will be submitted for consideration of the 9th Review Conference.

All minutes and documentation of the Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender are available on the dedicated UNCTAD [webpage](#).

All minutes and documentation are previously shared for member States and participants to provide input and suggestions before publication on its webpage. Participants can request to be included in the informal Working Group mailing list writing to ana.cipriano@un.org.

ⁱ [The Report of the Working Group on Consumer Protection and Gender \(unctad.org\)](https://unctad.org/system/files/information-document/ccpb_IGECON2024_Report_WG_Consumer_Protection_Gender_en.pdf) (2022-2023)
https://unctad.org/system/files/information-document/ccpb_IGECON2024_Report_WG_Consumer_Protection_Gender_en.pdf (2023-2024)