



## **Survey of the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection**

The questions relate to Section G of the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection: Promotion of Sustainable Consumption (please see enclosed document). You can choose the language of your preference, English, French or Spanish. We would like to encourage you to provide any relevant supportive documentation along with the completed questionnaire.

Government:  Your Name:   
Your Title:  Date:

Contact Details (address, phone number, e-mail)

### **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

**1. Before receiving this survey were you aware of the existence of the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection?**

- Yes
- No

*If yes, how did you come to know of them; what is your overall impression?*

**2. After reviewing the UN Consumer Guidelines (Section G - 'Promotion of Sustainable Consumption') what is your opinion of them? (maximum of two responses)**

- Easy to understand
- Confusing
- Useful for policy making
- Other (please explain below)

**3. Do you believe that Section G (Sustainable Consumption) of the Guidelines needs to be modified?**

- Yes
- No

*Please comment:*

**4. If your government has started to adopt Section G of the Guidelines, is there a focal point who is responsible for the implementation or the compliance monitoring of the Guidelines?**

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please provide contact details and description of responsibilities:*

**5. Has your government promoted awareness raising and information campaigns that focus on sustainable consumption?**

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please provide details:*

**GUIDELINES IN GREATER DETAIL: (SECTION G: PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION**

**PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY**

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-sections 45, 50 opposite)*

**6. Has your government encouraged the development and use of environmentally sound products and services and new technologies that take into consideration full life-cycle impacts?**

- Yes
- No

45a. Governments should encourage the design, development and use of products and services that are safe and energy and resource efficient, considering their full life-cycle impacts.

50. Governments, in partnership with the private sector and other relevant organizations, should encourage the transformation of unsustainable consumption patterns through the development and use of new environmentally sound products and services and new technologies, including information and communication technologies, that can meet consumer needs while reducing pollution and depletion of natural resources.

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

**POLICY INSTRUMENTS**

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 45 opposite)*

**7. Does your government have in place national recycling schemes?**

- Yes
- No

45b. Governments should encourage recycling programmes that encourage consumers to both recycle wastes and purchase recycled products.

*If yes, does your government have plans to expand/improve such initiatives?*

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 51 opposite)*

**8. Has your government created or strengthened effective regulatory mechanisms for the protection of consumers, including aspects of sustainable consumption?**

51. Governments are encouraged to create or strengthen effective regulatory mechanisms for the protection of consumers, including aspects of sustainable consumption.

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 52 opposite)*

**9. Does your government have in place economic measures (e.g. taxes, subsidies) that promote sustainable consumption?**

52. Governments should consider a range of economic instruments, such as fiscal instruments and internalization of environmental costs, to promote sustainable consumption, taking into account social needs, the need for disincentives for unsustainable practices and incentives for more sustainable practices, while avoiding potential negative effects for market access, in particular for developing countries.

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 53 opposite)*

**10. Does your government provide public information (e.g. statistics, indicators, databases) that measures progress towards sustainable consumption?**

53. Governments, in cooperation with business and other relevant groups, should develop indicators, methodologies and databases for measuring progress towards sustainable consumption at all levels. This information should be publicly available.

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

## RESEARCH

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 47 opposite)*

**11. Does your government encourage the impartial environmental testing of products?**

47. Governments should encourage impartial environmental testing of products.

- Yes  
 No

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 55 opposite)*

**12. Does your government promote research on consumer behaviour (related to environmental damage) in order to identify ways to make consumption patterns more sustainable?**

55. Governments and other relevant organizations should promote research on consumer behaviour related to environmental damage in order to identify ways to make consumption patterns more sustainable.

- Yes  
 No

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

## WHAT IS YOUR GOVERNMENT DOING IN ITS OWN OPERATIONS?

*(Refer to Guidelines, Section G, sub-section 54 opposite)*

**13. Has your government introduced 'sustainable practices' in its own operations? (e.g. green procurement, recycling schemes)**

54. Governments and international agencies should take the lead in introducing sustainable practices in their own operations, in particular through their procurement policies. Government procurement, as appropriate, should encourage development and use of environmentally sound products and services.

- Yes  
 No

*If yes, please provide some examples:*

OTHER COMMENTS

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Please return completed survey to:

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