UNECE
Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP6)
Thirty-first Session
Geneva, Switzerland, 24 November 2021

Report on activities under the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance
Vera Despotovic, MARS Group Chair
The meeting was held virtually on 13 July 2021

The meeting was attended by over thirty-six experts (twenty women) from ECE and non-ECE member States

Individual experts also attended in their own capacity
Market surveillance in the context of new challenges where the risk-based approach is essential

- Risk-based market surveillance in the context of the challenges introduced by COVID-19

- Solutions have been taken by countries faced by COVID-19

- Importance of risk assessment supported with electronic databases and information technology (IT) tools—information management system that integrates appropriate databases, for exchanging information on risks
MARKET SURVEILLANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF NEW CHALLENGES WHERE THE RISK-BASED APPROACH IS ESSENTIAL

- Importance of the quality management system as this contributes to standardizing market surveillance procedures and risk assessment procedures.

- The COVID-19 pandemic accentuated the need for QMS in order to mitigate the impact of the pandemic while at the same time ensuring that products on the market are safe.
MARKET SURVEILLANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF NEW CHALLENGES WHERE THE RISK-BASED APPROACH IS ESSENTIAL

- Strategies which could improve market access:
  - Harmonized product testing
  - Recognition product testing for equivalent markets
  - Harmonised and digitalized certification processes
MARKET SURVEILLANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF NEW CHALLENGES WHERE THE RISK-BASED APPROACH IS ESSENTIAL

- Involvement of export markets in product recalling
- Put into practice recommendation M and N of WP.6 and
- The e-business standards and recommendations of UN/CEFACT
IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON REGULATORY ACTIVITIES AND MARKET SURVEILLANCE

- Personal protection equipment in the fight against COVID-19
- Cooperation and Coordination between multiple agencies
- Awareness-raising in the area of product safety, market surveillance and conformity assessment with the rise in direct consumer importations through e-commerce
- The role of MARS Group in facilitating the exchange of experience
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MARKET SURVEILLANCE

- International cooperation as a key factor to improving market surveillance and compliance mechanisms for future member States of the EU in their accession process:

  - PTB Germany-Regional cooperation project in South/East Europe and regional cooperation with the countries of the eastern partnership

  - The EU regulation 2019/1020 on market surveillance – further strengthens cooperation between market surveillance authorities at the national level, between member States and at the European Union level
A REVISION OF THE MARKET SURVEILLANCE GLOSSARY

Based on the WP.6 decision the update of the Glossary is to respond:

- To the development of e-commerce
- New actors entering the market
- More advanced concepts of market surveillance aim to increase the effectiveness
PLAN TO CONTINUE:

- The exchange of information and experience among Market Surveillance Authorities especially as regards the planning of inspections and the challenges presented by the growth of e-commerce and potential cyber-security threats

- A revision of the Market Surveillance Glossary

- The review of recommendations M on Use of Market Surveillance Infrastructure as a Complementary Means to Protect Consumers and Users against Counterfeit Goods in view of a possible update
PLAN TO CONTINUE:

- Update the “Global and regional market surveillance networks”

- Enhance cooperation with WP.6 Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory System (GRM), the WP.6 START-Ed Initiative and relevant education institutions as well with UN/CEFACT

- Develop further the Market Surveillance Module Initiative covering all phases of market surveillance for planning to the unsafe product recall
Thank you!

Contact details:

Vera Despotovic

*MARS Group Chair*

Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications
vera.despotovic@mtt.gov.rs
www.mtt.gov.rs