



UNECE
Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and
Standardization Policies (WP6)
Thirty-first Session
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Report on activities under the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance
Vera Despotovic, MARS Group Chair

THE REPORT OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON MARKET SURVEILLANCE (MARS)

- **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**
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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**
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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**
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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**
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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**
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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
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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
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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
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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
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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
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Thank you!

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