Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (MARS)

Agenda item 4

Document reference:

ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/3

ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/4

ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/5

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

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- Appointment of officers on 26 May 2023:

  - Chair: Jan Deconinck (Belgium)

  - Vice-Chair: Ivan Hendrikx (Belgium)
  - Vice-Chair: Lucy Salt (New Zealand)
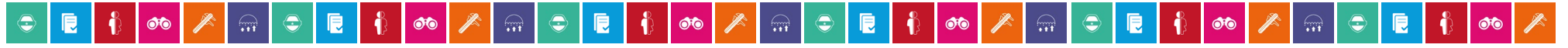
- 11.   Market surveillance enables Governments to ensure that products comply with mandatory regulatory requirements. The Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (MARS) promotes best practice guidelines that could serve as a reference framework for Governments.

- 12.   In the area of market surveillance, WP.6 plans to conduct the following activities:

  a) Review for possible updates the *Recommendation M on Use of Market Surveillance Infrastructure as a Complementary Means to Protect Consumers and Users against Counterfeit Goods* and plan for guidelines on implementation of this recommendation. A webinar on counterfeit products could also be planned in support of this

  b) Review for possible updates linked to digitalization and sustainability the *Recommendation N on Good Market Surveillance Policies and Practices*

  c) Continue exchanges of experience in the area of market surveillance in order to identify and bring forward best practices in this field while further developing the network of global and regional market surveillance entities

  d) Enhance cooperation with customs agencies, with an objective to improve controls at the border and application of market access regulations

  e) Develop further the *Market Surveillance Model Initiative Guide to the Use of the General Market Surveillance Procedures* covering all phases of market surveillance from planning of inspections to dangerous product recall

  f) Develop a guide to clarify certain terms in the *Market Surveillance Glossary*

Gender Balance in MARS Meetings
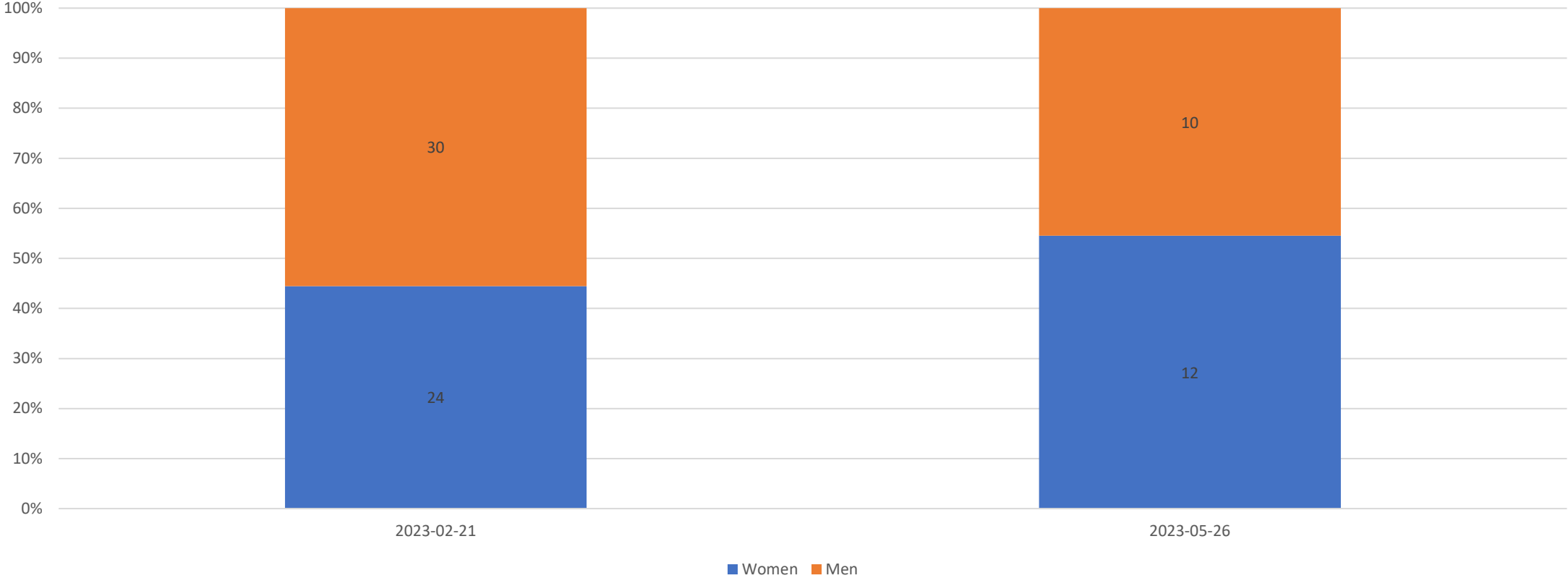
Revision of Recommendation K on Metrological Assurance of Conformity Assessment and Testing

- Basis of metrological assurance of conformity assessment and testing
- Alignment to most recent international guidance
- Development of guidelines on how to implement the recommended practices

Revision of Recommendation M on Use of Market Surveillance Infrastructure as a Complementary Means to Protect Consumers and Users against Counterfeit Goods

- Confirmation of pertinence of the recommendation topic
- Alignment to most recent international guidance
- Assertive and action-oriented language
- Development of guidelines on how to implement the recommended practices

MARS – Return on experiences

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Belgium
Application of EU regulations (e.g. harmonized sectors, level playing field)
Conformity assessment obligations (e.g. use of harmonized standards, test reports)

Estonia
Cooperation with customs (e.g. preparing annual risk profiles for customs)
Following EU regulations (e.g. responding within 4 days to requests from customs)
Web-crawler tool for searching dangerous products on the internet ("SAFE")

Sweden
Coordinated market surveillance activities (Market Surveillance Council)
Joint control operations and prioritization of operational cooperation
E-commerce working group (promoting best practices in online control)
Communication campagnes

European Union
Definition of economic operator in e-commerce in the EU vis-à-vis market surveillance
Information provided by economic operator (e.g. declaration of conformity, tech doc)

MARS – Pertinence of the topic today

Cooperation on a national level

Foster greater coordination

Harnessing e-commerce opportunities

Ensuring supply chain integrity in times of crisis

Using opportunities for technical assistance

Market surveillance role in e-commerce

MARS – Future directions

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Finalize revision of *Recommendation M*

Review for possible revision of *Recommendation N*

Exchange of experiences in market surveillance

Enhancing cooperation with customs agencies

Further develop *Model Initiative Guide*

Clarification of certain terms in *Glossary*