

Consumer Safety and Health Network in Action

Newsletter 1 - April 2019

The CSHN Management Committee 2018-2019 continues implementing its work plan



The CSHN Management Committee for the period 2018 and 2019 has started working on its 2019 activities.

The National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (Indecopi) of Peru prepared material for the campaign on school supplies which was circulated to Member states of the CSHN to raise awareness in countries on the importance of ensuring that parents and teachers are aware of the measures

they should take to ensure that the school supplies purchased are safe.

In February 2019, the Superintendence for Consumer Protection of Colombia initiated a diagnostic study on the Inter-American Rapid Alert System – SIAR (in its Spanish acronyms) to determine how the SIAR can be strengthened by identifying ways in which the System can be improved. The final report of the study was shared with CSHN members.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Commerce (MEIC) of Costa Rica and Indecopi of Peru, work has been initiated to standardize definitions and terminology used in the area of product safety. A questionnaire was created and has been circulated among CSHN Members in order to create a comparative matrix for terminology used among the member countries of the CSHN in relation to product safety. The questionnaire will help in determining similarities and differences and contribute to the standardizing of concepts used in alert procedures within countries of the Network.

Additionally, MEIC also produced a report evaluating how consumer alerts are developed and issued in Member states of the Network. The report has been shared with CSHN Member States.

The CSHN is an inter-American interdisciplinary mechanism, specialized in promoting -at a national and hemispheric level- the consumers' rights, through strengthening the capacities of member states to develop consumer product safety national market surveillance systems as well as to analyze their impact on consumers' health and well-being.

Share information with other countries

If you would like to share news, events, practices or other kinds of relevant information, please email us as at rcss@oas.org. You may also contact Ms. Mariette Vidal, at mvidal@oas.org.

What's happening in CSHN Member States



Brazil

An infographic of the Inmetro Accident Monitoring System (SINMAC) showing incidents with products and services reported by consumers in 2018 was launched. [Read more](#)

Inmetro participated in the 26th Annual Meeting of the International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization (ICPHSO), held in Washington DC, from February 25 to February 28, 2019. The representative of Brazil presented the diagnosis on the current pre and post market controls of the Inmetro and the new product safety regulatory model to be implemented in up to 3 years. The conference was also attended by representatives of the regulatory institutes of the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada.

Inmetro met with the Mission of Brazil to the OAS and the Department of Social Inclusion of the Organization of American States, on March 1, 2019 at OAS Headquarters. The meeting was held to discuss the participation of Inmetro in the Consumer Safety and Health Network of the Americas;

Inmetro and Senacon participated in the 18th meeting of the Working Party on Consumer Product Safety, coordinated by the OECD, in Paris between April 8 and 9, 2019. Brazil has been invited to testify about the use of the functionalities of the Global Recalls Portal;

Inmetro met with the General Directorate for Competition, Consumer Protection and Frauds (DGCCRF), the market surveillance and consumer protection authority of France, was held between April 10 and 11 in Paris. The objective of the meeting was to learn about the control practices and start the deal for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding;

Brazil participated in the 1st Product Safety Forum, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on April 17 and 18, organized by the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO). Brazil was the only country invited from the Southern Hemisphere that participated in the event and the country led a panel discussion on Market Surveillance presenting a diagnosis of the pre and post market controls of the Inmetro, and an overview of the new regulatory model of product safety that will be implemented in 3 years;

Inmetro participated in the teleconferences organized by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), of the United States. The teleconferences took with the aim of structuring the Working Group on Consumer Product Safety created in 2018, within the framework of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy (IGE) of the United Nations on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);

Inmetro participated in the meeting of the Permanent Study Group of Consumer Accidents (GEPAC). The meeting was coordinated by the National Secretary of the Consumer (Senacon) of Brazil, on April 23, 2019, to address issues related to consumer safety and health protection, with an emphasis on new ad rules for retirement campaigns that will soon be launched

Inmetro participated in the meeting of the National Council to Combat Piracy (CNCP). The meeting was chaired by Senacon. The Council consists of representatives of the most diverse segments of Brazilian society, to deal with issues that involve piracy, fraud and contraband of products and the impact on health and consumer safety.

INMETRO carried out the following campaigns between January and April 2019**January:**

- [Statistics on consumer accidents registered in Sinmac, in 2018](#)
- [Consumer Accident Monitoring System](#)
- [Inflatable swimming pools for children \(toys\):](#)

February (Carnival):

- [Ornaments used in costumes during the carnaval](#)
- [Condoms](#)
- [Information about textile labels used in carnival costumes](#)
- [Led Lamps](#)

March (Consumer Week):

- [Responsibilities of product suppliers](#)
- [Record of accidents of consumption in the Inmetro System of Monitoring of Consumer Accidents \(Sinmac\)](#)

April

- [Safety of toys offered as gifts in Easter eggs](#)



Chile

Safety Tips: prevention of burns in children by motorcycle exhaust pipes

Between 2014 and 2017, more than 220 cases of burns were recorded in COANIQUEM, as a result of contact with exhaust pipes. We invite you to review some recommendations to prevent children from suffering from burns and injuries resulting from contact with the exhaust pipes of motorcycles.. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

Safety Alert: flexible for gas brands Dimaflow and Taumm, Dn 10 mm, years 2017-2018

Importadora Ningbo Chile, after being officiated, has informed SERNAC a security alert for its flexible gas brands Dimaflow and Taumm, Dn 10 mm, marketed in Chile between November 2017 and November 2018, due to a defect in the EPDM hose. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

About 90% of cleaning products do not have any indication of danger

Cleaning and hygiene products (detergents, dishwashers, cleaners, degreasers, chlorine, etc.) are the second cause of poisoning in Chile, affecting mainly children. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

If you have had an incident or accident with a product, we invite you to tell us your experience

This information allows us to have a database associated with consumer products that are causing injuries to people and / or damage to property and will contribute to improving our actions in order to have a risk-free market.

**Colombia**

SIC ordered the suspension of production and sale in a preventive manner DR. LOOK PALITO LÁSER. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

**Dominican Republic****Stores closed for selling unhealthy food and for having pests**

Santo Domingo Dominican Republic. -The National Institute for the Protection of Consumer Rights (Pro Consumidor), reported that it has suspended 35 food businesses in the first quarter of the year due to unhealthiness and for having pests, irregularities that are constituted in Law 358- 05 as serious violations that put the health of consumers at risk. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

Entity starts program in Mercado Nuevo

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.- The Executive Director of the National Institute for the Protection of Consumer Rights (Pro Consumidor), reported that it intervened in the so-called Mercado Nuevo of the capital, because it is urgent to improve the unhealthy conditions in which the food that caters to grocery stores, fruit stands, “triculeros”, the tourism sector, among others, reaching 65% of the points of sale in Greater Santo Domingo. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated, requesting safer and more reliable technology products

Santo Domingo Dominican Republic. –On Friday, the National Institute for the Protection of Consumer Rights (Pro Consumidor), commemorated World Consumer Rights Day, requesting the construction of smart phones and products that take into account data protection, security, privacy, fair prices and better access to the mobile Internet. [Read more](#) (Available in Spanish only)

**El Salvador**

[Consumer Advocacy joins Ministry of Education campaign to protect consumers in school season](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Beware consumers who use Toyota and Lexus brand cars, your airbag can be deadly!](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Beware consumers, DeWalt reversible drills, could cause electric shocks, know the dangerous models!](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Consumer Advocacy conducted a study and discussion on "smart products: trust and consumer protection"](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Consumer Advocacy Announces Virtual Education Program in Consumer Law and Virtual Classroom](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Consumer Advocacy Launches Digital Platform for Supermarket Prices](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Attention consumers, the battery of your HP computer could cause a fire or burns!](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

["Defensoría Veraniega" effectively protected consumers during Easter holidays](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Consumer Advocacy publishes Good Practice Manual to suppliers of restaurants and convenience stores](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

[Attention consumers! Rocking chairs "Rock'n Play" of the company Fisher-Price are withdrawn from the market due to death reports](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

**Mexico**

Ricardo Sheffield Padilla, head of Profeco, receives his counterpart in Peru, Ivo Gagliuffi Piercechi

Mexico City.- The Federal Attorney for Consumer Protection, Ricardo Sheffield Padilla, received on a working visit his counterpart in the Republic of Peru, Ivo Gagliuffi Piercechi, President of the Board of Directors of the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (Indecopi). [Read more](#) *(Available in Spanish only)*

**United States****CPSC, Canadian, Mexican Consumer Safety Counterparts Create Consensus Recommendations on Product Testing**

In an unprecedented initiative by the three product safety agencies of North America, technical staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Health Canada, and Mexico's Consumer Protection Federal Agency (PROFECO) have developed consensus recommendations to improve test methods for ensuring the safety of alternating current (AC) chargers and universal serial bus (USB) chargers. [Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

UNCTAD

[Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, fourth session-](#)

July 8-9, 2019, Palais des Nations
Geneva, Switzerland

Learn about the latest consumer alerts

Through the Inter-American Rapid Alerts System (SIAR based on its Spanish acronym), the CSHN keep its member updated on the alerts on the products that may put at risk consumers' safety and health.

We would like to invite you to share and upload to our platform the alerts published by your institution.