

**European Consumer Days  
5 and 6 December 2008**

**Draft programme**

**Friday 5 December 2008  
The proposal for a directive on consumer rights**

**8am – 9am: Welcome**

**9am – 9.30am Opening address by Mr Luc Chatel:** *French Minister of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs and Ms Kuneva, European Commissioner*

Speech by *Mr Bruno Parent, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Competition, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Control (DGCCRF).*

**9.30am – 11.10am: 1<sup>st</sup> round table: The proposal for a directive on consumer rights: the chosen level of harmonisation**

**Moderator: Jacqueline Minor,** *Director of the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO)*

**9.30am -10.10am: Presentation of the draft directive by DG SANCO**

- **text background** (impact study)
- **key characteristics of the directive proposal**

*Giuseppe Abbamonte, Head of the B2 Unit*

**10.10am – 10.25am French university perspective –**

*Mr Gilles Paisant, Professor at the University of Savoy and Honorary Dean of the Chambéry Faculty of Law and Economics.*

**10.25am – 10.40am: Professional perspective**

*Ms Linda Jackson, CBI*

**10.40am – 10.55am: Consumers' association perspective**

*Ms Monique Goyens, Director of the European Consumers' Organisation (BEUC)*

**10.55am – 11.10am: Questions - Discussion**

**11.10am – 11.40am Break**

**11.40am – 1pm: 2<sup>nd</sup> round table: Scope of the directive proposal**

**Moderator: Mr Jacques Toubon, MEP**

**11.45am – 12pm: Subject presented by a university academic**

*Mr Javier Lete Achirica, Professor at the University of Santiago de Compostela. Head of Spain for the European Contract Law Group.*

**12pm- 12.15pm: Consumers' association perspective**

*Mr Paolo Martinello, President of the Italian association Altroconsumo*

**12.15pm –12.30pm: Professional perspective**

*Mr Eric Jourde, President of Consumer Law Committee of France's leading employers' association, MEDEF*

**12.30pm-12.45pm: Questions - Discussion**

**1pm – 2.30pm: Lunch**

**2.30pm – 5.30pm: 3<sup>rd</sup> round table: The rights granted to consumers by the directive proposal**

**Moderator: Mr Bruno Parent**

***2.30pm –3.45pm Drawing up the contract (precontractual information<sup>1</sup> and right of withdrawal)***

**2.30pm – 2.45pm: Presentation**

*Ms H el ene Davo – Professor – University of Montpellier*

**2.45pm – 3pm: Consumers' association perspective**

*Mr Luis Silveira Rodrigues, Lawyer, of the Portuguese association DECO*

**3pm – 3.15pm: Professional perspective**

*Ms Susanne Czech, Delegate General, EMOTA*

**3.15pm – 3.30pm: Questions - Discussion**

**3.30pm – 3.45pm: Coffee break**

***3.45pm – 5.15pm: Contract contents and enforcement (contractual clauses and guarantees)***

**3.45pm – 4pm: Presentation**

*Mr Simon Whittaker, Professor – University of Oxford. Specialist in consumer law*

**4pm – 4.15pm: Inspection authority perspective**

*Mr Gunnar Larson – Swedish Ombudsman*

**4.15pm – 4.30pm: Professional perspective**

*Mrs Sigrid Hintzen, German federation BDI*

**4.30pm – 4.45pm: Questions -Discussion**

**4.45pm – 5.15pm: Summary of discussions**

*Mr Gabor Hamza, Professor – University of Budapest*

**7. 30pm – 11pm: Cultural visit and official dinner at the Mus e d'Orsay**

## **Saturday 6 December, morning**

### **Consumer protection effectiveness and group action**

**9.15am – 9.30am: Welcome**

**9am – 11.30am: Round table**

**Moderator: Ms Diana Wallis, Vice –President of the European Parliament (United Kingdom)**

**9am – 9.15am: Consumer protection effectiveness**

*Ms Jacqueline Minor, Director of DG SANCO*

**9.15am – 9.30am: European achievements: summary of existing group action procedures**

*Mr Thomas Rouhette, Lawyer, Lovells (to be confirmed)*

**9.30am – 9.45am: Thoughts on the French group action project**

*Mr Bruno Parent, Director-General of DGCCRF*

**9.45am – 10am: Presentation of the Commission's thoughts on collective action**

*Mr Dirk Staudenmayer, DG SANCO*

**10am – 10.20am: Break**

**10.20am – 10.50am: Perspective of consumers' associations**

*Mr Bazot, President of the association UFC-Que Choisir*

*Ms Reine-Claude Mader - CLCV*

**10.50am – 11.05am: Professional perspective**

*Ms Joëlle Simon, BUSINESSSEUROPE*

**11.05am – 11.20am: Questions- Discussion**

**11.45am– 1.15pm: Lunch**