



2014 Trilateral Consumer Product Safety Summit
2014年三方消费品安全峰会

Fourth Biennial Consumer Product Safety Trilateral Summit

Among the European Commission, Health and Consumers Directorate General - United States Consumer Product Safety Commission - General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China

Joint Press Statement

19 June 2014

Brussels, Belgium

Trilateral cooperation to enhance the safety of products reaching consumers

Since 2008, the Authorities of the United States, China, and the European Union have pursued joint efforts to strengthen non-food consumer product safety and protect the end consumer. This regular international regulatory cooperation and coordination allows for shared implementation to help make consumer product markets safer.

With the effective protection of consumers being at the heart of their mission, the Health and Consumers Directorate General of the European Commission (DG SANCO), the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China have decided to take stock of previous achievements and to build on those to deepen the trilateral cooperation in furtherance of consumer product safety.

During this Fourth Biennial High-Level Consumer Product Safety Trilateral Summit held today in Brussels, Belgium, Neven Mimica, Consumer Policy Commissioner of the European Commission; Elliot F. Kaye, Executive Director and Chairman-Designate of the CPSC; and Sun Dawei, Vice-Minister of AQSIQ exchanged views and information concerning further improvements to consumer product safety, including the significant enhancement of the product safety culture by industry.

The Tripartite Participants discussed the practical use of the concept of “seamless surveillance” of consumer products,¹ with the objective of establishing reinforced product safety controls throughout the supply and distribution chains. The Tripartite Participants also considered additional joint activities that could be undertaken trilaterally or bilaterally to reinforce the culture of safety among economic actors. The topics of consumer product tracking and traceability and dissemination of consumer product safety information were also discussed.

¹ Seamless surveillance links product safety controls along the product supply chain by enhancing cooperation between product safety authorities in countries of origin and countries where the products are sold. It was agreed at the 2012 Consumer Product Safety Trilateral Summit that seamless surveillance was of great importance to enhancing international consumer product safety.

Points of Consensus

The Tripartite Participants share the view that:

- (1) The safety of consumer products is of utmost importance. Enhanced international regulatory cooperation contributes to the improvement of the safety of products.
- (2) Reinforced application of and cooperation in product safety controls at every stage along the supply chain, from design, through production, export and import, leads to the manufacture and distribution of safer consumer products and builds consumers' trust. This, in turn, contributes to economic growth and international trade.
- (3) Promoting a culture of safety within the entire supply and distribution chains for international consumer product trade contributes to the effective protection of consumers. This can include promoting company management systems that have product safety as their core value, incorporating safety into product design and appropriate company controls.
- (4) DG SANCO, AQSIQ and CPSC, individually and collectively, play a vital role in working to ensure that industry places the safety of consumers first.

Specific Actions

The Tripartite Participants intend to engage, bilaterally and trilaterally, as appropriate, on the following specific actions within the context of their overall cooperation framework:

- (a) lay out additional steps, resources permitting, to support implementing the Points of Consensus;
- (b) exchange information regularly, and as early as possible, on major safety issues and on new and prospective developments in their respective consumer product surveillance systems;
- (c) specify additional practical aspects of how authorities can cooperate to implement the concept of seamless surveillance, taking into account changes in product safety control systems of authorities and with the objective of providing effective product safety controls and cooperation among authorities;
- (d) continue education for industry stakeholders, to encourage the adoption and further development of a strong safety culture along the supply and distribution chains;
- (e) continue discussions on relevant standards for consumer products of shared concern; exchange information on technical regulations and standards for these products; and explore jointly the possible convergence of safety requirements in furtherance of consumer product safety;
- (f) continue reinforcing consumer product traceability against the backdrop of our respective regulatory systems; and
- (g) engage other relevant administrative departments or governmental organisations, as appropriate, dealing with consumer product safety in order to maximize opportunities for effective cooperation in the area.

Next Trilateral Meeting

The Tripartite Participants look forward to holding the next Consumer Product Safety Trilateral Summit in 2016. The date and location of the Summit are to be determined.