

Webinar of 2022-03-10

Webinar 'How do standards benefit consumers?'

Questions & Answers

1	COPOLCO (the ISO Consumer Policy Committee) - can you explain that to listeners, too? I am on Standards Australia's COPOLCO Mirror committee, giving consumers a voice as a technical expert volunteer. Our work informs some of the work that specific technical committees conduct. Another key SA committee: CS-118 Button Battery Safety.	ANEC is an observer in ISO COPOLCO, as well as in ISO COPOLCO CAG (Chairman's Advisory Group). The aim of the CAG is to be a strategic committee which develops proposals for the annual COPOLCO plenaries. ANEC also monitors the work of the ISO COPOLCO Product Safety Working Group and participates in the revision work of relevant ISO/IEC Guides (e.g. Guide 50 on child safety; Guide 51 'Safety aspects — Guidelines for their inclusion in standards').
2	How do you feel about the role standards are given in the GPSR proposal? Do you feel like stricter provisions should be introduced so that economic operators have to comply with the standards?	Because the EC proposal for a GPSR does not contain any product safety requirements but only a general safety requirement, ANEC believes additional clarity is needed on how safety requirements are set and their relationship with standards. We are of the opinion that Article 7 of the proposal should be properly linked to article 6.2 on standardisation, to make sure these criteria will be taken into account by the European Standardisation Organisations (ESOs) when drafting and revising technical harmonised standards. See further details in: ANEC position on the draft General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR): Response to the EC Consultation, September 2021 ANEC-BEUC position paper 'KEEPING CONSUMERS SAFE FROM DANGEROUS PRODUCTS: How to make the General Product Safety Regulation a useful tool to ensure product safety' from November 2021 on the EC proposal for a GPSR.