



Safe products and a fair market

Market surveillance –
a consumer perspective

IMCO public hearing – 29 May 2013

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ANEC Secretary-General



European consumers expect . . .



. . . products placed for sale on the market
to be

SAFE

- regardless of the country of origin of the product
- regardless of the price of the product
- regardless of the law applying to the product

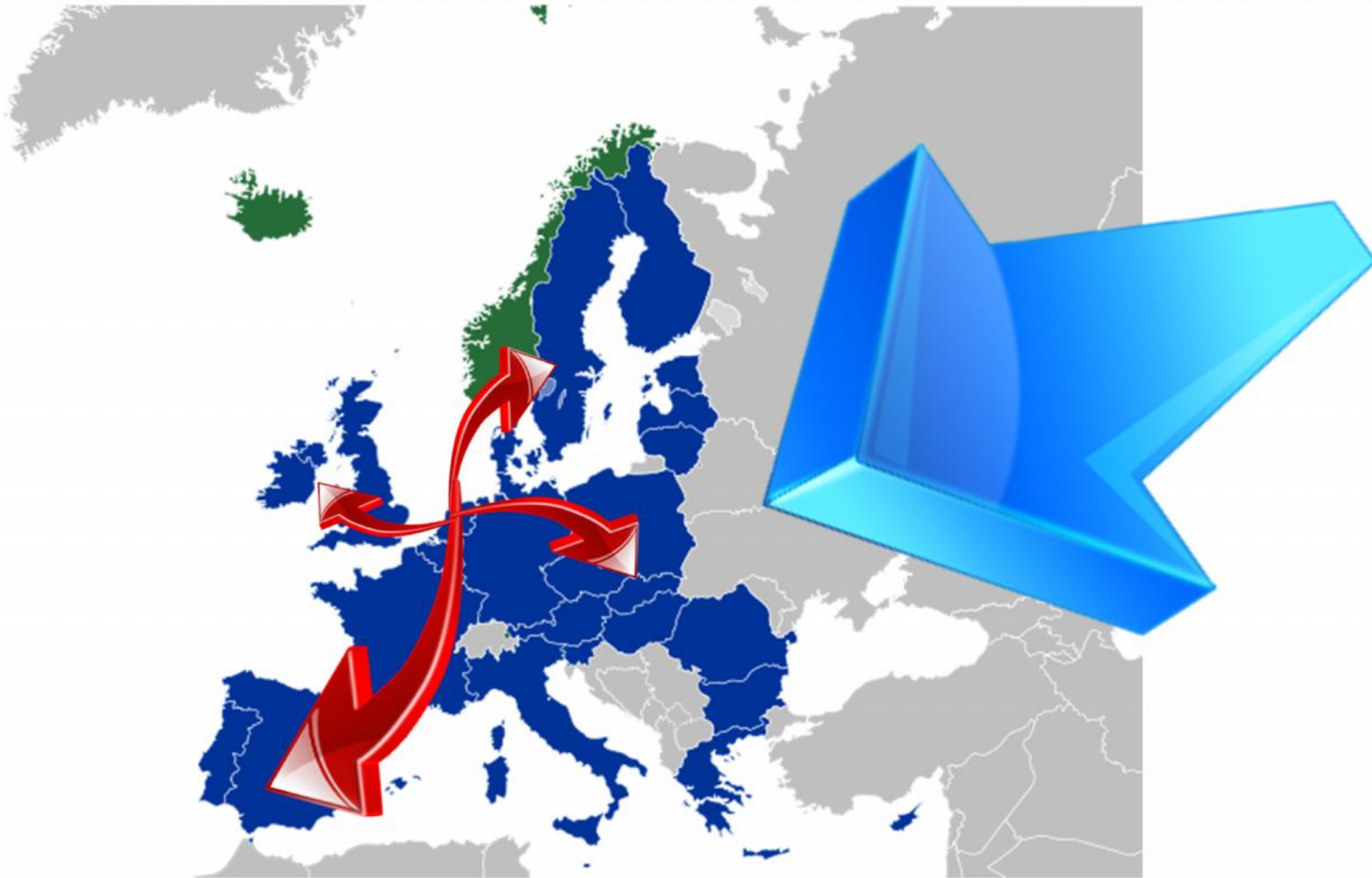
Market surveillance in Europe . . .



- A Member State responsibility
- Few common definitions
- Few common priorities
- Few common activities
- Insufficient resourcing
- Insufficient (but improving) co-ordination with customs authorities
- Different criminal sanctions (often inadequate)



The free movement of goods . . .



Regulation 765/2008 requires . . .



“National market surveillance infrastructures and programmes shall ensure that effective measures can be taken in relation to any product category subject to Community harmonisation legislation.” (Article 16.3)

.....



“With the exception of a few countries, the majority of MS have not committed more human or financial resources . . . nor are they planning to do so in the near future.”

(Conclusions of ‘Market Surveillance in the Member States’)



The market should have been
clean of non-compliant
lighters by
11 March 2008

BUT

76% non-compliant
tested by PROSAFE
February 2010

Comments on draft MSR



Scope - laudable but is it too ambitious?

- who is going to pay and HOW?



Precautionary Principle - needs to be mentioned



Internet Sales – more must be done

EU accidents & injuries database

- ought to be central to preventive actions
- should be considered an investment and not a cost



Thank you for listening

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Raising Standards for Consumers