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Chairman ICN Steering Group
President Federal Cartel Office

15 June 2022

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 22 June 2022

Dear Colleagues,

On 22 June we will meet in Paris, on the margins of the OECD meetings. Our Steering Group meeting will be in-person only and commence at 8.30 am. SG members will be able to enter the OECD premises from 8:15am.

We will start the meeting with the Horizontal Coordinator's final report on working group work plans. The draft report was discussed on 27 April 2022.

The Merger Working Group has finalized the report on ex post merger evaluation and you will be asked to approve the report before it will be published on the ICN website.

The Third Decade project has proven to be a successful tool to spark a discussion on ICN procedures, tools and topics. This process is still ongoing. At the annual conference in Berlin, the working group Co-chairs discussed possible next steps which will be shared with you during this meeting. The Co-chairs will continue working on this project during the summer break.

The focus of our meeting will be on inflation, competition and recovery. At the SG meeting in Berlin on 6 May, several SG members highlighted that the ICN is playing an important role during these difficult times and that the SG should address this topic in order to support the ICN membership and advocate for competition. This is in line with the fact that on 30 March 2022 the SG confirmed Margarida Matos Rosa, President of the Portuguese AdC, as new [Vice Chair](#) for Growth and Recovery. Margarida Matos Rosa has already developed a vision for this position and she will share plans for a potential project to bring together relevant stakeholders to discuss the role of competition for growth and the economic recovery. In this context, the possibility of an ICN SG statement on the role of competition in times of crisis will be explored. Just to remind you, in 2009 the ICN published a statement "The case for competition policy in difficult economic times", by John Fingleton, who was the Chair of the SG at that time. This

statement is available on the ICN [website](#). In April 2020, the SG issued a statement addressing key considerations related to competition law enforcement during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. At next week's meeting, Benoît Cœuré, President of the Autorité de la concurrence, will introduce a SG discussion relating to the economic crisis. All SG members will be invited to actively participate in this discussion.

I look forward to speaking with you next week.

Best wishes,

Andreas Mundt