

Note from the Chair for the June 17, 2015 Steering Group Meeting

Dear colleagues,

This is our first meeting after our very successful conference in Sydney and also our last meeting before many of us leave for the summer. Therefore, I would like to use the opportunity of our face to face meeting in Paris to set the tone for this new ICN year.

To allow our working groups to get started with their work as soon as possible, our first task will be to approve the work plans for this year. Thereafter, I would like to continue our discussions on possible future work for the ICN.

Work Plans

We will hear from the ACCC, our Horizontal Coordinator, about the final report on the work plans. The **work plans and** summary report will be circulated in advance of the meeting. • The Steering Group will be invited to approve the Work Plans.

The ICN in 2015/2016 – what next?

I would like to use the opportunity of our face-to-face SG meeting in Paris to continue the discussion on which issues the ICN should be focussing on in the near future.

Without pre-empting the follow-up of the Second decade project which will be continued through this working year 2015-2016 and be presented in Singapore, the idea for this meeting is to have a dialogue that is not limited to the topics the SG should be dealing with, e.g. with regard to general policy, but also with regard to issues the ICN should address in general. Some ideas we might be able to apply in the current ICN year, some might require a more mid-term approach.

I have prepared a brief discussion paper, which was circulated together with the other documents for the meeting. The ideas brought forward in this paper, are supposed to help spark a lively discussion in Paris and to generate more feedback over the summer. I will invite Steering Group members to contribute to this discussion as much as possible.

ICN-OECD Liaison

John Pecman, in his capacity as OECD-Liaison, will provide an update of the work of both fora and identify any potential synergies or overlap.

Membership WG

The Membership Working Group Co-chairs received applications for ICN membership from the Competition Authority in Kuwait and from Sutel, the telecom regulator of Costa Rica. Through the ICN secretariat the Membership Working Group furthermore received an application from the Mexican Federal Institute of Telecommunications. The Co-chairs will seek SG approval for the

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application of Kuwait and will also inform SG on the membership applications of the two regulators. The eligibility of regulators as ICN members will require further discussion at a later stage.

Other Business

Our colleagues from the Competition Commission Singapore have prepared a paper on the Special Project Paper for the ICN Annual Conference 2016. They would be grateful for any written comments to be submitted to Ms Ng Ee-Kia (Senior Director/Policy and Markets Division) at ng_ee_kia@ccs.gov.sg or Mr Poh Lip Hang (Assistant Director/Policy and Markets Division) at poh_lip_hang@ccs.gov.sg by 17 July 2015.

And looking to the future once more we will hear an update on the planning of the 2015 Merger Workshop in Belgium.

I look forward to speaking with all of you next week and wish all of you safe travels to Paris.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt