



Andreas Mundt Chairman ICN Steering Group President Federal Cartel Office

20 October 2022

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 26 October 2022

Dear Colleagues,

The Competition, Growth and Recovery Workshop will take place on 25 October 2022, and the SG Statement on The Role of Competition & Competition Policy in Times of Economic Crisis is planned to be published on the ICN Website the same day. Many thanks to our ICN Vice Chair Margarida Matos Rosa and all involved in this important project. During this SG meeting, we will hear a report back from the Vice Chair on the Workshop and we will continue the discussion on competition in times of crisis based on presentations provided by Doris Tshepe, Competition Commissioner of the Competition Commission South Africa and Francis Kariuki, Director-General of the Competition Authority of Kenya.

More agenda items for our meeting include an update from the Advocacy Working Group on current projects. The Unilateral Conduct Working Group reported to the SG in January 2022, the Agency Effectiveness Working Group in February, the Cartel Working Group in March and again in September on the "back to basics" project, and the Merger WG also in September 2022. We will continue these brief reports in future meetings to ensure a close connection between working groups and the SG.

The ICN Secretariat will share an overview on upcoming workshops including the Cartel workshop which will take place in Auckland, New Zealand, on 5-8 December 2022 – registration is open at <u>www.icncartelworkshop22.com</u> –, the UC Workshop hosted by the JFTC in Tokyo in March 2023, the next Chief and Senior Economists Workshop in Bergen, Norway, on 30-31 May 2023, and the Advocacy Workshop hosted by the Competition Authority of Kenya in Nairobi on 22-23 February 2024.

The ITOD project group will update the SG on modules which are planned or already in production including modules on writing an effective case recommendation, public affairs,

market definition/market power, a framework for single firm conduct, bid rigging and public procurement, and access to information. The latest module on market studies and market investigation can be viewed via this non-public <u>link</u>, which will be posted publicly following our meeting.

Finally, the Membership working group will present applications by the National Competition Commission of the Government of Paraguay, and ECOWAS Regional Competition Authority (ERCA) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for SG approval. In this context, the Secretariat will highlight a new process aiming at an improved information flow from the ICN to its membership as well as up-to date ICN lists which is called the "ICN Annual Check-In" and implement suggestions and ideas provided by members in the 3D project.

I look forward to speaking with you next week.

Best wishes,

Andreas Mundt