

Andreas Mundt
Chairman ICN Steering Group
President Federal Cartel Office

2 July 2020

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 8 July 2020

Dear colleagues,

Since our June meeting, the ACPC has organized weekly calls and worked on the agenda and speaker line-up for our first-ever virtual annual conference. The result is a compact conference week starting on 14 September, and additional sessions organized by the working groups which will be linked to the conference week but will take place later this year. This approach has a couple of advantages: it will limit the number of sessions per day, it will allow the working groups more time for preparation, and it will provide visibility to the ICN in fall, given that the working groups will not be able to organize in-person workshops this year due to the pandemic.

Arranging a line-up of speakers is always challenging. Speaker diversity in terms of geography, gender and group diversity, i.e. a mix of speakers from agencies, private practice and academics need to be taken into account in order to fuel lively debates. This year, experience with virtual events will be important, particularly for the moderators. And there is of course pressure from many agencies that would be willing to share their views and offer the valuable experience of their speakers. Many thanks to all colleagues involved who took on this challenge and prepared the overview circulated by the Secretariat in preparation of our meeting.

The working groups have finalized three more work products which are ready for review and Steering Group approval. The Advocacy Working Group Co-chairs will present “Approaches to Identify Policies for Competition Assessment”, the Cartel Working Group Co-chairs will present a “Guidance on Enhancing Cross-Border Leniency Cooperation”, and the Unilateral Conduct Working Group Co-chairs will ask for approval of a “Report on the Results of the ICN Survey on Dominance/Substantial Market Power in Digital Markets”.

We will then turn to the joint work with OECD and hear about a webinar scheduled for the day after our meeting, 9 July, where the key finding of the joint ICN/OECD draft report on international enforcement co-operation will be presented.

I am looking forward to speaking with you next Wednesday.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt