

Andreas Mundt  
Chairman ICN Steering Group  
President Federal Cartel Office

1 July 2021

### **Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 7 July 2021**

Dear Colleagues,

Let me start this note by thanking Alejandra Palacios, President of COFECE Mexico, for her engagement and commitment to the ICN. She is a pillar of the network as Vice Chair, SG member, Co-chair and project lead, and a strong voice in the international competition community. Next week will be Alejandra Palacios's last SG meeting as her term will come to an end in September and there will be no SG meeting in August.

As we will only meet again on 15 September with the Annual Conference starting in October, we have to look at conference speakers now so that they can start planning the sessions. We have already discussed topics, and next week the Working Group Co-chairs will present their plenary session speakers and moderators. The working groups also are making good progress with regard to breakout sessions, but to ensure diversity and involvement of the broader ICN community, they will further fine tune the BOS line-up.

There are plans for an additional anniversary event to be held on 25 October 2021, which could include a plenary session featuring former ICN Chairs looking back and ahead, and we will hear more details on this from the planning committee.

The ICN Vice Chair for Younger Agencies and Regional Diversity, Alejandra Palacios, hosted and moderated a successful Town Hall on Younger Agencies in the Third Decade of the ICN on 22 June 2021. The event was structured as a panel with three breakout sessions. The format worked very well and allowed for lively discussions. The Vice Chair will provide a debrief.

Co-chair rotation will take place in October 2021 when the Annual Conference marks the start of the new ICN year. However, given that the next ICN year will be shorter than usual – October to May – we will discuss the new working group leadership already next week in order to

facilitate a smooth transition and a quick restart after the conference. The Secretariat also will present SG candidates for the next term.

Finally, the Steering Group project on Cooperation will provide an update, and the Secretariat will present amendments to the ICN website concerning both the ICN Calendar and the members' directory.

I look forward to speaking with you next Wednesday.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt