

ICN Steering Group Meeting April 20, 2012

From 13:00 to 14:30 am (Rio de Janeiro, Brasil time)

Attendees:

- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato
- Autorité de la concurrence
- Barbados Fair Trading Commission
- Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE)
- Brazilian Secretariat for Economic Monitoring
- Brazilian Secretariat of Economic Law of Ministry of Justice
- Bundeskartellamt
- Competition Bureau Canada
- European Commission DG Competition
- French Autorité de la concurrence
- Japan Fair Trade Commission
- Korea Fair Trade Commission
- Mexico Federal Competition Commission
- Moroccan Conseil de la Concurrence
- Netherlands Competition Authority
- Polish Office of Competition and Consumer Protection
- Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service
- South African Competition Commission
- Turkish Competition Authority
- United Kingdom Office of Fair Trading
- United States Department of Justice
- United States Federal Trade Commission
- Portuguese Competition Authority (guest)

Draft Minutes

1. Approval of Draft Agenda and Previous Minutes

The meeting agenda was approved. Steering Group members were asked to send any comments on the draft minutes of the March 13, 2012 SG meeting to the ICN Secretariat (ICN.Secretariat@cb-bc.gc.ca) by May 1, 2012.

2. Steering Group Vision Statement

The Chair presented a brief summary of his vision statement, circulated to the Steering Group members on April 4, 2012.

Steering Group members were invited to provide comments on the vision statement before the June Steering Group meeting. At the June meeting the Steering Group members will discuss ways to take forward the vision statement.

3. Approval of ICN's New Member- Uruguay

The Korean Federal Trade Commission asked to move the membership item to June or July to allow review of the complete application.

4. Review of the ICN's 2012 Annual Conference

The Chair acknowledged the great success of the Rio conference, and asked Steering Group members to think about how we can have similar success for the 2013 Warsaw meeting. The principal areas of discussion included format, logistics, and new / younger member engagement.

Steering Group members agreed that there was a good balance in the time allocated to the plenary sessions, breakout sessions, and coffee breaks. Members noted that the plenary sessions were engaging, highlighting in particular the unilateral conduct session, and stressing the need to continue to find diverse ways of creating interactive, engaging panels. One member noted that the plenary sessions could consider having time for questions from the audience, when possible.

A number of members highlighted the importance of engaging with new and/or younger members at the annual conference, with proposals ranging from increased use of AISUP to a new member track at the conference, to an informal mentoring program.

5. Steering Group Substantive Projects

With respect to the Substantive Projects, each of the project leaders provided a summary of what was agreed during their breakout session, and preliminary next steps.

Draft for publication

For the cooperation project, breakout sessions suggested, and Steering Group members agreed that it is important to coordinate this work closely with the CWG, MWG, and UCWG, and for the questionnaire and project to take account of the needs and realities of younger agencies.

The breakout sessions of the investigative process project demonstrated considerable support for taking the work forward. Participants had suggestions for specific areas of work, including a project that would survey members' procedures. Some participants indicated that transparency was an important subject to address first. The project leads will consider this input, together with the results of the breakout session written questionnaire. Steering Group members stated the need for Steering Group involvement in the project.

The participants in the breakout sessions on the courts project acknowledged both the importance of this work, and the many challenges for taking it forward. There was discussion of whether the project should go forward as a special project or as part of the advocacy working group.

At the end of the discussion SG Members recognized the excellent work conducted by John Fingleton as the Steering Group Chair and Kazuhiko Takeshima's work as SG member and Vice Chair.

8. Other Business

The Chair asked for comments from the participants of the meeting, and proposed to address them in the SG next meeting in Paris on June 2012.

9. Future Meetings of the Steering Group

- Thursday, July 19, 2012
- Tuesday, September 25, 2012
- Wednesday, October 24, 2012
- Wednesday, December 5, 2012
- Wednesday, January 16, 2013
- Wednesday, February 27, 2013
- Wednesday, March 20, 2013
- Wednesday, April 3, 2013 (TBC)
- Wednesday, April 10, 2013 (TBC)