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Chairman ICN Steering Group
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18 April 2024

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 24 April 2024

Dear colleagues,

Next week will be our last virtual meeting of the 2023/2024 ICN year before we meet in person at the 2024 ICN Annual Conference in Sauipe, Brazil. We have a packed agenda with many important topics. I look forward to welcoming Alvin Koh, the new Chief Executive and Commissioner of the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore. He succeeds Sia Aik Kor, whom I would like to thank once again for her work as an ICN Steering Group member and Vice Chair, and for her active involvement in our network.

ICN Annual Conference

With the [ICN Annual Conference](#) in Sauipe, Brazil, just around the corner, our conference host CADE will give us a final update on conference planning. We will then turn to the potential topics for this year's Heads of Agencies Sessions. In view of the ongoing Operational Framework discussions, there are also plans for a Steering Group / Operational Framework Working Group meeting.

Workshops

The French Autorité will present an outline for the ICN workshop on "The role of competition in supporting sustainable development goals" which will take place virtually from 2 to 3 July 2024. The US FTC will report back from the successful Technologists Group Forum in Washington, DC. The participating agencies issued a joint statement on [Building Capacity to Strengthen and Support Law Enforcement Agencies](#), which was very well received.

ICN Operational Framework

As at our last meetings, we will hear an update from the Operational Framework Working Group. Two group calls were held on 27 March and 3 April 2024, in which working group co-chair rotation and steering group decision making were discussed.

Working Group Leadership

The ICN Secretariat circulated a call for expressions of interest in co-chairing a working group at the end of March and will present the expressions of interest received.

Work Products

At the Annual Conference, the working groups' written work products will be presented to the ICN membership. Next week, the Agency Effectiveness Working Group Co-Chairs will present the report *Gathering and Using Information for Effective Strategic Planning* and the Merger Working Group Co-Chairs will present the *Report on Control of Data, Market Power and Potential Competition in Merger Review* and the RP chapter on *Non-Horizontal Mergers* for steering group approval, the latter of which was discussed at a webinar on 15 April 2024. Furthermore, the Competition law enforcement at the intersection between competition and privacy project team will provide an update on the status of the agency considerations document.

Horizontal Coordinator Report

The working groups have been drawing up their ambitious work plans for the coming ICN year. The Horizontal Coordinator will share an initial assessment. The final work plans will be presented for approval after the Annual Conference to take into account fresh input from the event as well as the perspectives of the new Working Group Co-Chairs.

SG Members' Hot Topics Presentation

Our Hot Topics Discussion will focus on "Recent Amendments to Competition Law relating to Settlements and Commitments". The topic will be introduced by Chairperson Kaur of the Competition Commission of India. I encourage all Steering Group members to actively participate and share their perspectives.

For security and transparency reasons, please register for the meeting in advance.

I look forward to seeing you next week, at least virtually.

Best wishes,

Andreas Mundt