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31 August 2016

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 7 September, 2016

Dear colleagues,

Welcome back to ICN business, hopefully after a relaxing break, summer or winter – unfortunately we have not yet reached convergence on the seasons in our truly global network.

In our meeting, we will continue our discussion on the implementation of the second decade follow-up. I will give you an update on the Change Committee and some of the Topic Teams will briefly report on their ideas and plans.

We will then turn to the ICN workshops. The season starts with the ICN Chief/Senior Economists Workshop on 12 and 13 September, followed by the Cartel Workshop in Madrid in October and the Advocacy Workshop in Mexico in November. The Merger Working Group will organize a roundtable following the OECD Global Forum on Competition in Paris in December and a workshop in February. I would like to invite the corresponding working groups or the host agencies to outline their ideas and plans for their events.

The focal point of each ICN year is the Annual Conference. The Portuguese Competition Authority will provide an update on the preparation of the 2017 Annual Conference.

An issue particularly associated with the Annual Conference is the question of funding of ICN events. The Operational Framework Working Group is dealing with this question and will provide a brief update. A paper will be presented and discussed in one of our next meetings.

I am looking forward to speaking with you next week.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt