

Andreas Mundt
Chairman ICN Steering Group
President Federal Cartel Office

15 February 2018

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 21 February 2018

Dear colleagues,

The primary task of the Steering Group (SG) as defined in the ICN Operational Framework is to guide the work of the ICN in particular by reviewing and approving work plans devised by the responsible working groups. In our February meeting we will focus on this core task. The ICN Horizontal Coordinator will present a draft report and the Working Groups will give an overview of their plans for the next ICN year. To enable the SG to fulfil its guiding role it will be particularly important to learn in which areas written work products are expected and whether any recommended or best practices are in the pipeline. However, it is not only the written work products that matter. The ICN webinars and workshops greatly contribute to the success of the network. The SG will encourage the working groups to interact and to coordinate the timing of the workshops. The first workshop in the 2018/2019 ICN year will be the ICN –OECD Chief/Senior Economists Workshop which will be hosted by the OECD Korean Policy Centre and held in Seoul on May 2-4.

The 2018 ICN Annual Conference in New Delhi is fast approaching. CCI will provide the SG with an update on their planning. We will briefly touch upon plenary and BOS speaker selection and we will continue the discussion on live streaming of the opening and closing sessions and possibly also the plenary sessions. This was generally supported in the last SG meeting, but there was also some concern regarding the technical feasibility.

In our last SG meeting before the Annual Conference which will take place on 14 March 2018, we will review the work products which will be approved at the Annual Conference and we will have a look at the future working group leadership.

I am looking forward to speaking with you next week.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt