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President Federal Cartel Office

15 June 2017

Note from the Chair for the Steering Group Meeting on 21 June, 2017

Dear colleagues,

I would like to invite you to the Steering Group meeting in Paris on 21 June, 2017. It is our first meeting in the new ICN year and I am looking forward to working with all of you.

This ICN year is short as the 2018 ICN Annual Conference will already take place in New Delhi in March. ICN Annual Conferences have become events of impressive dimensions and their organization poses a challenge for both the host and the working groups. To be well prepared for New Delhi and to facilitate the planning processes, we will start the meeting with an evaluation of the Annual Conference in Porto and the “lessons learned” which will form the basis for a guide for future hosts to be discussed at a future meeting.

The working groups have a full agenda for 2017/18. The ACCC, our Horizontal Coordinator, will present the final report on the work plans. After Steering Group approval, the work plans will be published on the ICN website. I intend to promote the work plans in the next ICN newsletter to be circulated at the end of June to get the word out and to get on board interested members and NGAs. The newsletter will include links to the work plans and points of contact in the working groups. In addition, the working groups are planning a joint call with all the working groups for members and NGAs on 27 June.

The preview of the new website presented in Porto was very promising. The website team has reviewed several comments and proposals and will provide an update on the status of progress.

Implementation continues to be a key issue for the ICN. The Advocacy & Implementation Network (AIN) is exploring a number of possibilities to support the working groups with their implementation efforts, which will be briefly presented in our meeting.

The ICN-OECD liaison will provide an update of OECD future topics.

Finally, the UC and AE working groups will update the SG on future workshops and we will discuss the nomenclature of agencies at ICN events. Should we change from state to agency given that ICN is a network of agencies or can we expect that all participants know that they are representing their agency and not their country and stick with the current practice?

I am looking forward to seeing you in Paris.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt