



ICN Steering Group Meeting
Wednesday, 17 January 2024
8:00 Ottawa / 14:00 Bonn
via Zoom

Attendees

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense
Colombian Superintendence of Industry and Commerce
Competition Bureau Canada
Competition Commission of India
European Commission DG Competition
French Autorité de la concurrence
German Bundeskartellamt
Hungarian Gazdasági Versenyhivatal
Italian Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato
Japan Fair Trade Commission
Kenya Competition Authority
Korea Fair Trade Commission
Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission
Philippine Competition Commission
Portuguese Competition Authority
Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore
Competition Commission of South Africa
Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission
United Kingdom Competition and Markets Authority
United States Department of Justice
United States Federal Trade Commission

Item 1: Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 6 December 2023.

Item 2: Annual Conference

The ICN Annual Conference will take place in Sauípe, Brazil, from 14 to 17 May 2024. The conference host, the Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE), informed the SG members about the current status of the preparations. The SG members thanked CADE.

Item 3: Advocacy Workshop

Dr Adano W. Roba, Acting Director-General of the Competition Authority of Kenya, gave an update on the upcoming Advocacy Workshop. The workshop will take place in Nairobi from 22 to 23 February 2024 under the theme of “Bouncing Back: Competition Advocacy and Resilience to Global Shocks”. In addition, there will be a pre-event on 21 February organised by the Competition Authority of Kenya in collaboration with the US FTC. The theme of the pre-event will be “Digital Markets Advocacy Workshop: An in-depth discussion of market studies and inquiries”.

Item 4: Working Group Status Reports

The Philippine Competition Commission, in its capacity as Co-Chair of the Advocacy Working Group, reported on the status of the group’s projects focusing on the projects “*Interactions between Sector Regulators and Competition Authorities*”, “*Evaluating the Effectiveness of Advocacy Initiatives*” and “*Assessing Progress in the Development of Successful Advocacy Strategies to the Judiciary*”.

Item 5: Operational Framework

The Competition Bureau Canada, in its capacity as Co-Chair of the Operational Framework Working Group, informed the SG members about the status of the Operational Framework review. A first conference call took place on 21 December 2023 which covered the issue of SG decision-making. Further group calls will be scheduled, followed by regular updates in SG meetings.

Item 6: SG Members’ Hot Topics Presentation

Nuno Cunha Rodrigues, President of the Portuguese AdC, gave a presentation on “Competition and generative artificial intelligence”, a topic on which the Portuguese AdC recently published a paper. The presentation was followed by a lively discussion with interventions by several SG members.

Item 7: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 8: Future SG meetings

The next SG meetings will take place on 21 February 2024, 20 March 2024 and 17 May 2024 (Costa do Sauípe).