



**ICN Steering Group Meeting**  
**Friday, 17 May 2019, 2pm**  
**Cartagena, Las Americas**

**Attendees**

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission  
Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense  
Competition Bureau Canada  
Colombian Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio  
European Commission DG Competition  
French Autorité de la concurrence  
German Bundeskartellamt  
Japan Fair Trade Commission  
Competition Commission of India  
Italian Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato  
Korean Fair Trade Commission  
Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission  
Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets  
Portuguese Competition Authority  
Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation  
Competition Commission of Singapore  
Competition Commission of South Africa  
Spanish National Authority for Markets and Competition  
Turkish Competition Authority  
United Kingdom Competition and Markets Authority  
United States Department of Justice  
United States Federal Trade Commission

**Item 1: Election of the Chair**

The Steering Group (SG) members re-elected the President of the Bundeskartellamt as ICN Chair. The Chair accepted the vote and thanked the SG members for their trust.

After consultation with the SG members, the Chair renominated Alejandra Palacios, President of COFECE, Mexico, and Han Li Toh, Chief Executive and Commissioner of the CCCCS, Singapore, as ICN Vice Chairs for a new two-year term and thanked them for their willingness to continue serving in their positions.

The Chair proposed to start the meeting with future ICN topics and projects as an additional agenda item. The SG approved the amended agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting of 7 May 2019.

## Item 2: Future ICN Topics and Projects

### *Joint work with the OECD on cooperation*

The Chair informed the SG that the OECD will continue its work on cooperation and that the OECD Competition Committee approached the ICN to discuss a possible cooperation between OECD and ICN. The Chair reminded the SG members that the ICN and the OECD have previously cooperated in this area and had conducted a survey. The SG will have the opportunity to discuss such possible joint work in the next SG meeting.

### *ICN 3rd decade*

The Chair reminded the SG members that the ICN will celebrate its 20th year of existence in 2021. He outlined the possibility of building on the successful Second Decade Project and the Second Decade Follow-Up with a 3rd Decade Project.

### *ICN Book*

The Chair reported that the NGAs Paul Lugard and David Anderson approached him to announce that for the 20<sup>th</sup> birthday of the ICN there will be a new edition of the book “The International Competition Network at Ten – Origins, Accomplishments and Aspirations”. The Chair encouraged SG members to contribute to the new edition.

### *Website*

The Chair thanked the website team for setting up the new ICN website. The Chair emphasized that the ICN website needs to be filled with content and maintained. Going forward, the intention is for the working group Co-chairs to become more involved in this process and to support the ICN Secretariat in its efforts to keep the website up-to-date as the main communication tool with members, NGAs and the interested public.

### *Consumer protection*

Given that several competition agencies also have competences in the area of consumer protection, the SG considered whether the ICN could do work on consumer protection. It was noted that topics should be carefully selected and designed to be of relevance for all ICN members, whether or not they had competences in the field of consumer protection. Furthermore, the question was raised whether corresponding institutions and NGAs should become involved.

### *Additional topics*

The following discussion covered additional topics such as privacy and international cooperation on remedies.

### Item 3: Review of the Annual Conference

The Chair congratulated SIC on hosting an excellent ICN Annual Conference. The SG members expressed their gratitude to SIC and praised the very well organized conference.

The Chair invited members to discuss the Annual Conference.

#### *Speech of the President*

The speech of the President of the Republic of Colombia was considered a highlight as it showed the commitment on the highest level of government.

#### *Heads of agency session*

The heads of agency session was considered a success and very interesting and helpful for the participants.

#### *Work product presentations*

SG members welcomed the three video work product presentations.

#### *Plenary sessions*

It was noted that plenary sessions covered very broad themes and the suggestion was made to reinforce the link between plenary sessions and BOS.

The CAP plenary session was praised particularly because of the involvement of representatives from many regions of the world.

It was noted that technical tools used at the conference in the plenary session and in BOS facilitated interactivity. Twitter was mentioned as possible additional tool that could be used during plenary sessions, e.g. by displaying tweets during the sessions.

#### *Speaker selection and new formats*

It was noted that SG members and ICN members overall should be aware that not all conference participants can participate as speakers. It was considered to introduce new formats to create additional speaking possibilities including keynote speeches or interview formats.

It was suggested to invite representatives of digital companies as speakers at future conferences.

A stronger involvement of the judiciary was suggested.

#### *BOS*

It was noted that the set-up of BOS rooms can facilitate interactive discussions.

### *Ibero-American session*

The session “Sharing the Ibero-American Experience in Competition Enforcement” in Spanish was considered very valuable.

### *NGA engagement*

The NGA liaison reported back from the NGA session. Topics discussed in that session included a directory of NGAs and the process of how agencies select their NGAs. The NGA liaison will continue the dialogue with NGAs and report back to the SG.

### *Outreach*

Based on the participation in the annual conference it was noted that ICN’s outreach efforts might not be effective in all regions of the world. It was suggested to install agencies responsible for ICN outreach in each world region.

### Item 7: Other Business

No other business was reported.

### Item 8: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will be held on 5 June 2019 in Paris, France.