

# ICN Steering Group Meeting Wednesday, 19 January 2022, 2:00pm CET

#### 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 Hungarian Gazdasági Versenyhivatal Italian Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato Japan Fair Trade Commission Kenya Competition Authority Korean Fair Trade Commission Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission **Portuguese Competition Authority** Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore **Competition Commission of South Africa** Turkish Competition Authority 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 15 December 2021.

#### Item 2: ICN Annual Conferences

The German Bundeskartellamt, in its capacity as the 2022 Annual Conference host agency, updated the SG members on the planning of the 21st ICN Annual Conference, which will take place in Berlin from 4-6 May 2022. The 2022 host agency reminded the SG members that the Bundeskartellamt will host back to back conferences. The International Conference on Competition (Berlin Conference or IKK), which will take place in the morning of 4 May 2022, will be followed by the ICN Annual Conference, which will commence on the afternoon of

Wednesday, 4 May and end on Friday, 6 May 2022. The conference venue for both conferences will be the Steigenberger Hotel am Kanzleramt.

The SG members approved the plenary topics for the Annual Conference:

- AWG: Enabling effective international enforcement cooperation through advocacy
- AEWG: How the pandemic has changed agencies' investigative processes
- CWG: Cartel enforcement in the next decade: Priorities and new trends beyond the pandemic
- MWG: Challenges in merger control: Prohibitions and effective remedies
- UC: Issues in digital markets

#### Item 3: Workshops

The Spanish CNMC presented details of the Advocacy Workshop which is to be held virtually on 9–11 February 2022.

## Item 4: Agency Effectiveness Working Group

The SG members approved the Agency Effectiveness Working Group's Report on ICN Agencies' Case Prioritisation and Initiation. The report will be published on the ICN website.

#### Item 5: Unilateral Conduct Working Group

The Unilateral Conduct Working Group (UCWG) provided an update on the various ongoing workstreams. These include a project on Assessing Dominance in the Digital Era which focuses on market shares and barriers to entry as well as expansion in digital markets, and a project on the Analysis of Theories of Harm and Design of Remedies Concerning Unilateral Conduct with Dominance/Substantial Market Power in Digital Markets which focuses on the main issues and challenges connected with the analysis of these topics. The UCWG will continue finalising the draft paper on "Market Shares and Barriers to Entry and Expansion in Digital Markets".

The UCWG is organising several webinars, inter alia on "Cooperation between Competition Authorities on Unilateral Conduct". The virtual UCWG Workshop on the topic "Types of abusive unilateral conduct in digital markets – 'traditional' and 'novel issues'", organised by the Competition Commission of India, will be held on 22-23 March 2022.

## Item 6: ICN CAP

The ICN Framework for Competition Agency Procedures (ICN CAP) Co-chairs informed the SG members that the ICN CAP meanwhile has 74 members and almost all have submitted an ICN CAP Template. A list of the members and the Templates are available on the ICN website. The ICN CAP Co-chairs presented plans for a webinar on confidentiality in March 2022.

#### Item 6: SG Members' Hot Topics Presentation

The SG members discussed competition law and policy issues in Latin America based on presentations by Acting Chair Commissioner Brenda Hernández, COFECE Mexico, Andrés Barreto, Superintendent of Industry and Commerce, Colombia, and Alexandre Cordeiro Macedo, President of CADE Brazil.

## Item 7: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 8: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will take place on 16 February 2022.