



**ICN Steering Group Meeting
Wednesday, 24 January 2018, 2pm 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
Competition Commission of India
Japan Fair Trade Commission
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
Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service
Competition Commission of Singapore
Competition Commission of South Africa
Spanish National Authority for Markets and Competition
United Kingdom Competition and Markets Authority
United States Department of Justice
United States Federal Trade Commission

Item 1: Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The Chair, Andreas Mundt, welcomed the Steering Group (SG) members. The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on December 6, 2017.

Item 2: Annual Conference

The Competition Commission of India provided an update on the 2018 Annual Conference. CCI informed the SG about a possible rearrangement of plenary sessions. The Chair asked the working groups concerned to liaise and to find a common solution. CCI proposed to live stream the opening speech that will be given by the Minister of Finance of India and the closing speech delivered by the Minister of Railways and Coal. This was generally supported, but there was also some concern regarding the technical feasibility. The SG decided to continue the discussion on live streaming of the opening and closing sessions and possibly also the plenary sessions in the next SG meeting. CCI provided an update on the special project including the

plenary session. The Chair highlighted that ICN plenary sessions are generally designed as lively sessions and presentations should be kept short.

Steering Group members discussed possible plenary speakers based on a speaker chart circulated before the call. The Chair thanked the working group co-chairs for the very helpful overview. He pointed out that it is up to the working groups to organize their sessions and select speakers, but it is the SG's role to review the line-up from a more general perspective. The Chair reminded SG members of the general principles that should be applied when selecting speakers and which are summarized in the lessons learned document put together after the 2017 Annual Conference in Porto:

- Speaker diversity in terms of geography, gender, group diversity is crucial. Group diversity means that not only agencies but also NGAs should be represented in the sessions.
- The working groups should strive for lively and controversial debates by ensuring diversity in terms of opinions on the topics.
- Speaking experience and language skills are essential.
- Working groups should choose moderators with the experience and willingness to play a key role in the organization of the session.

The SG agreed that already many excellent speakers were listed in chart of proposed speakers. The SG asked the working groups to consider the general principles when filling the remaining speaker slots. Given that a number of speaker slots were still vacant, the SG could not come to final conclusion but decided to finalize the review as soon as possible. The ICN Secretariat will circulate an updated speaker chart.

Item 3: Press Policy

The Vice Chair for Communication presented a proposal for the ICN media policy at the ICN Annual Conference. He suggested to continue the present practice, but to sharpen it as follows:

- Plenary sessions are open to press.
- Break-out sessions are open to press under Chatham House Rules, this in order to ensure the quality of the break-out sessions and their value to agency representatives, who may not be mandated to speak on behalf of their agencies;
 - unless Working groups designate particular break-out sessions as agency-only
 - with the exception that quotes are allowed with the approval of the speaker
 - and with the realisation among ICN members that it is not a water-tight system.
- We will ensure press awareness of the Media policy, preparing a briefing media policy note for press-members, circulating the media policy in advance and if possible, holding a session with press in advance to explain the rules, and why they are necessary. We will involve the press officer of the host agency.
- We will also remind attendees of the press policy during the plenary sessions.

The SG accepted the proposal.

Twitter

The Vice Chair for Communication will present ICN tweeting guidelines:

1. ICN has a Twitter account @IntCompNetwork
2. The account is maintained by the vice-chair of communication, who has the password.
3. Hashtags for ICN events are discussed in advance with the vice-chair of communication. Hashtags used to date have been #ICNPorto, #ICNRomeWorkshop and #ICNMergerworkshopMX.
4. The tweets are agreed in advance between the vice-chair of communication and the host agency. Annual conference tweets are also agreed in advance with the ICN chair.
5. Tweets are factual in nature. We try to focus on the timing and content of the event. Tweets are simple, short, uncontroversial and informative. Tweets usually start a few days in advance of the ICN event, and finish on the last day, or a day later. For example, "International Competition Network starts its annual conference today in Porto. Competition authorities from over 100 jurisdictions attending".
6. Thereafter two or three tweets are posted daily. The tweets mainly focus on the plenary content. Where possible, photos are attached to the tweets. The focus in the photos should be sharp and the subject should be clear. Retweeting is encouraged. Where the host agency has its own Twitter account, the host agency's tweets on the ICN event may be retweeted through the ICN account and vice versa.
7. The hashtag is announced at the conference, so people can tweet using the hashtag. At the same time we inform the attendees briefly about our ICN Tweeting Guidelines.

The SG accepted the proposed tweeting guidelines.

Item 5: Workshops

COFECE provided a debrief on the 2017 ICN MWG regional workshop "Investigative Techniques in Modern Merger Analysis" in Mexico City on 12-13 December. Over 100 attendees including officials from 31 jurisdictions and NGAs from 11 different organizations participated. The workshop followed a practical approach and included presentations by experts as well as the development and discussion of hypothetical cases both in English and Spanish. Simultaneous translation into Spanish was provided during the conference. COFECE streamed the presentations through the Workshop's Facebook page with very positive results. COFECE uploaded 15 videos during both days of the event, which generated 420 views, and shared 231 photos through the platform. The internal satisfaction survey proved high satisfaction of the participants. 100% of respondents said that they would recommend attending a workshop of this kind, and 90% were satisfied with it and found it useful. Respondents valued the opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas with colleagues from other jurisdictions.

Item 6: Membership

The Membership WG presented the applications for ICN membership of the Bangladesh Competition Commission and the United Arab Emirates Competition Regulation Committee.

As the need for further information was identified, the SG decided to continue by written procedure.

Item 8: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 9: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will be held on February 21, 2018.