

# ICN Steering Group Meeting Tuesday, 7 May 2019, 2pm CEST

#### **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 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 **Turkish Competition Authority** United Kingdom Competition and Markets Authority United States Department of Justice **United States Federal Trade Commission** 

### <u>Item 1: Approval of Agenda and Minutes</u>

The Chair welcomed the Steering Group (SG) members. The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 3 April 2019.

# Item 2: ICN CAP

The Chair updated the SG about the ICN Framework on Competition Agency Procedures (ICN CAP). Registration opened on 1 May 2019. The Chair circulated a newsletter to encourage agencies to register. Many agencies already sent their registration forms to the Secretariat. The CAP will be presented in Cartagena in a plenary session.

### Item 3: Work Products

The Working Group Co-Chairs presented their groups' work products.

The Advocacy Working Group reported that the working group is working on an Advocacy and Digital Markets project summary report that will be finalized after the Annual Conference.

The Agency Effectiveness Working Group presented ICN Recommended Practices on Investigative Process and the Organisational Design Project Report

The Cartel Working Group presented a new Chapter of the Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual on the Development of Private Enforcement of Competition Law in ICN jurisdictions (Sub Group 2) and Good practices for incentivising leniency applications (Sub Group 1).

The Merger Working Group presented a Comparative case study report on Vertical Mergers and the updated guidance on cooperation tools in the MWG's Practical Guide to International Enforcement Cooperation as well as the ICN Framework for merger Review Cooperation Survey Report

The Unilateral Conduct Working Group presented the Vertical Restraints Multi Year Project Report includes hypotheticals on online parity requirements and online selective distribution models.

The SG approved the work products.

ICN Training on Demand (ITOD) briefly reported on new ITOD modules on merger remedies and on international cooperation already approved by the SG.

The Chair highlighted the excellent report "Lessons to Be Learnt from the Experience of Young Competition Agencies" prepared by the Vice-Chair for Younger Agencies and Regional Diversity. The Vice-Chair for Communication will present a "Report on Participation by ICN Members at ICN Annual Conferences and ICN Workshops" at the SG meeting in June in Paris.

# <u>Item 5: WG Chair rotation</u>

Based on the expressions of interest the Chair's office had received the Chair suggested that FAS becomes CWG Co-Chair replacing DG COMP, CNMC Spain becomes MWG Co-Chair replacing US FTC and DG COMP becomes UC Co-Chair replacing ACCC. ACCC will stay in UC as a project lead.

The SG members approved the Chair's proposal for WG Chair rotation.

# Item 5:SG and SG Chair election

The Chair informed the SG about expressions of interest to become a SG member and the election of the SG Chair for the 2019 – 2021 term. According to the ICN Operational Framework, the SG is confirmed in odd-numbered years at the ICN Annual Conference by consensus of ICN members. The SG members elect the Chair.

The Chair expressed his willingness to continue serving as the Chair should the SG decide to express its continued support. With regard to SG membership, the Chair explained that he had received two excellent expressions of interest, one from the Portuguese authority, the second from the Spanish authority. Both agencies informed the Chair before the meeting that they have already foreseen resources to cover the work in the SG and other duties in the ICN such as working group co-chair. The Dutch ACM informed the Chair before the SG meeting that at this stage of time they will focus on the work in the working groups leaving one vacant SG position. The Chair explained that he discussed with the candidates how best to proceed and that the Spanish authority signalled its willingness to postpone its candidacy for the SG to next elections. It will focus on the working group's work and in addition is willing to continue serving as a Co-Chair of the Membership Working Group. The Chair thanked the Spanish CNMC for its commitment and flexibility.

### Item 6: Annual Conferences

Colombia's Superintendence of Industry and Commerce provided an update on the 2019 Annual Conference planning. The Chair thanked the host agency.

# Item 7: Workshops

The Cartel Working Group and the Merger Working Group Co-Chairs presented the hosts for the 2019/2020 workshops: 2019 Cartel Workshop hosted by CADE in Foz do Iguaçu from 7 to 10 October 2019 and 2020 MWG Workshop hosted by the ACCC in Melbourne in February 2020. The SG members approved the workshops.

# **Item 7: ICN Secretariat**

The ICN Secretariat presented the ICN Special Purpose Account. The Chair highlighted that there are different ways to support the ICN, but that financial contributions are important if the ICN wants to financially support agencies to participate in events or for the website.

The SG approved the SPA.

### Item 7: Other Business

No other business was reported.

### **Item 7: Future SG Meetings**

The next SG meeting will be held on 17 May 2019 in Cartagena.