



**ICN Steering Group Meeting**  
**Wednesday, 27 January 2021, 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  
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  
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 welcomed the Steering Group (SG) members. The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 2 December 2020.

**Item 2: ICN Calendar of Events**

The ICN Secretariat updated the SG members on upcoming events based on the ICN Calendar of Events 2021 published on the ICN website. The Secretariat also informed the SG members of the first ICN spotlight, a new 45-minute interview format, which will take place on 2 February 2021 and which will deal with the topic “Leading your agency through change”.

The Merger Working Group is planning a virtual event in April 2021, the Cartel Workshop will take place in Portugal in November, the Advocacy Workshop in Spain in either December 2021 or February 2022.

### Item 3: ICN Annual Conference

The host agency of the 2021 Annual Conference presented the status of the planning of the first hybrid ICN Annual Conference. The Chair and the SG members approved the basic structure of the event based on the week at a glance document circulated in preparation of the meeting and thanked the Hungarian competition authority.

The SG members discussed the 2022 ICN Annual Conference. The SG members noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the high level of uncertainty it might be appropriate to find an experienced host agency. Based on the current pandemic, the Chair offered that the Bundeskartellamt (BKartA) could host the 2022 ICN Annual Conference in Berlin back-to-back with the BKartA's Berlin Conference (IKK). The Chair highlighted that the number of participants would be limited to about 350 people (additional pandemic-related restrictions might apply) and that instead of a special project the morning of the first day would be dedicated to the IKK. The ICN conference would start in the evening in a slightly streamlined form. The SG members approved the BKartA as the host agency for the 2022 Annual Conference.

### Item 4: Intersection Project

The SG members approved the Issues Identification Paper on "Competition law enforcement at the intersection between competition, consumer protection, and privacy" which is based on literature review and agency responses. The issues paper consists of a structured list of considerations at the intersection coupled with some open questions for further analysis.

### Item 5: Bridging Project

The ICN Vice Chair for Younger Agencies and Regional Diversity presented the Bridging Project Report. The Vice Chair established the Bridging Project in 2019. As a pilot, the Bridging Project brought together young and small member agencies with SG members. The report contains the following next steps for the pilot of the project, mainly operative activities:

- continue working with the young agencies currently involved in the pilot;
- promote more spaces (virtual or face-to-face) where young agencies and SG members can come together to discuss common topics, experiences and general impressions regarding the Bridging Project;
- encourage SG members to share experiences related to their use of specific ICN work products;
- extend the Bridging Project by i) inviting the involvement of more young agencies, ii) inviting other agencies not currently part of the SG to help and guide young agencies to better engage in the ICN, and iii) considering other adjustments in the future that might foster additional engagement; and
- continue with the promotion of synergies between the Bridging Project and all other ICN initiatives.

The SG members thanked the Vice Chair and approved the next steps outlined in the report.

### Item 6: Membership

The SG members approved the Eurasian Economic Commission's application for membership.

### Item 7: P&I

The Promotion and Implementation group updated the SG on ITOD activities.

Modules planned:

- Writing an Effective Case Recommendation
- Relationship between Competition Agencies and Public Prosecutors
- A Framework for Single Firm Conduct
- Document Review
- Encouraging Cartel Reporting
- Public Affairs

The SG members approved the new video module: "How Ought We Best Deter Cartel Offenses?" produced by Terry Calvani, former Member of the Irish Competition Authority and a former Commissioner of the US FTC. Moderator and speakers include: Joanna Tsai, Charles River Associates; Frederic Jenny, OECD; Jorge Padilla, Lexecon EMEA; and Daniel Rubinfeld, Professor of Law, New York.

### Item 8: OECD

The OECD Liaison informed the SG members of the release of the joint ICN/OECD report on co-operation.

### Item 9: Other Business

The Secretariat informed the SG members about a request of the Global Privacy Assembly (GPA) to circulate a GPA survey which focuses on cooperation between agencies to the ICN membership via the ICN Secretariat.

The SG members noted that as a general rule the ICN Secretariat should only circulate ICN related documents. However, given a link to the Intersection Project which has invited a GPA speaker to the next webinar, the SG members decided that the ICN Secretariat should forward the survey only to agencies active in the Intersection project.

### Item 10: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meetings will take place on 17 March, 5 May, 2 June and 7 July 2021.