



ICN Steering Group Meeting Wednesday, 8 July 2020, 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
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
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 Chair welcomed the Steering Group (SG) members. The Chair welcomed the new Head of the Spanish Competition Authority CNMC, Cani Fernandez, who was invited to join the SG meeting in her capacity as Merger Working Group Co-chair to discuss annual conference planning. The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 10 June 2020.

Item 2: Twitter

The Chair updated the SG members on the more active use of the ICN Twitter account. He addressed two issues: the coordination of ICN tweets sent by the Chair's Office, and action taken by the SG members to increase the coverage of ICN tweets.

The Chair reminded the SG members that the initial tweeting guidelines approved by the SG in 2018 focused on ICN events. At the last SG meeting in June 2020, the SG members agreed to use Twitter to promote work products and to keep ICN members, NGAs and the public

informed. The Chair informed the SG members that following the SG meeting in June, the Chair's Office issued three tweets on the Cartel Big Data work product, the annual conference and the SG's Intersection Project. He explained that in view of the fact that all ICN tweets are non-controversial and typically based on content already published on the ICN website, the coordination of the tweets was disproportionately time consuming. The SG members agreed that in the future the Chair's Office will draft and publish tweets. The Chair invited the SG members to share ideas and suggestions for tweets. Furthermore, the Chair invited the SG members to act as multipliers by personalizing and retweeting ICN tweets.

Item 3: ICN Annual Conference

The Chair reminded the SG members that according to the ICN Operational Framework, the SG approved the conference agenda based on the advice of the Annual Conference Planning Committee, ACPC.

The virtual hosts presented the agenda for the annual conference, including the Digital Showcase program, for SG's approval. The conference will be structured as a core conference week which will start on 14 September and additional sessions organized by the working groups and linked to the conference week that will take place later this year. This approach will limit the number of sessions per day, it will give the working groups more time for preparation, and, given the fact that the working groups will not be able to organize in-person workshops this year due to the pandemic, it will provide visibility to the ICN in fall.

The working groups presented their sessions, including speakers, format and objectives, for SG's approval:

- Day 1: Advocacy Working Group - Competition Advocacy in the Digital Age
Moderator: Kjell Sunnevåg, Director External Relations, Norwegian Competition Authority
Panelists: Andres Barreto González, Superintendent of Industry and Commerce, Colombia; Michal Halperin, Director General, Israel Competition Authority; Rikard Jermsten, Director General, Swedish Competition Authority; SIA Aik Kor, Chief Executive, Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore; TBD: NGA
- First Session on Day 2: Agency Effectiveness Working Group - Digital Strategy of Competition Agencies
Moderator: Matthew Boswell, Commissioner of Competition, Competition Bureau, Canada
Panelists: Alexandre Barreto, President, Administrative Council for Economic Defense, Brazil; Andrea Coscelli, Chief Executive, U.K. Competition and Markets Authority; Sung Wook Joh, Chairwoman, Korea Fair Trade Commission; Margarida Matos Rosa, President, Portuguese Competition Authority; Rod Sims, Chairman, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- Second Session on Day 2: Merger Working Group - Digital Mergers
Moderator: Edith Ramirez, U.S. NGA

Panelists: Reiko Aoki, Commissioner, Japan Fair Trade Commission; Cani Fernández, President, National Authority for Competition and Markets, Spain; Ashok Kumar Gupta, Chairman, Competition Commission of India; Alejandra Palacios, President, Mexican COFECE

- First Session on Day 3: Unilateral Conduct Working Group - Unilateral Conduct Remedies in Digital Markets
Moderator: James Hodge, Chief Economist / Acting Deputy Commissioner, South African Competition Commission
Panelists: Olivier Guersent, Director-General, Competition, European Commission; Katherine Kemp, Australia NGA; Andreas Mundt, President, Bundeskartellamt, Germany; Christine Wilson, Commissioner, U.S. Federal Trade Commission
- Second session on Day 3: Cartel Working Group: Big Data and Cartelization
Moderator: David Anderson, EC NGA
Panelists: Gabriella Muscolo, Commissioner, Italian Competition Authority; Ioannis Lianos, President, Hellenic Competition Commission, Greece; Richard Powers, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. DoJ; Isabelle de Silva, President, Autorité de la concurrence, France; Andrey Tsyganov, Deputy Head, Federal Antimonopoly Service, Russia
- Day 4 will include sessions for younger agencies moderated by Alejandra Palacios, for NGAs moderated by Isabelle de Silva and for economists.

The SG members approved the draft agenda.

The Chair highlighted that arranging a line-up of speakers ensuring speaker diversity in terms of geography, gender and group diversity, i.e. a mix of speakers from agencies, private practice and academia, in order to fuel lively debates is always challenging for the working group co-chairs, and thanked all colleagues involved.

The Hungarian competition agency, host of the 2021 Annual Conference, presented plans for a yearbook looking back at annual conferences, which is to be published on the occasion of the 2021 Annual Conference. The Chair added that this publication was not linked to the “ICN at 20” project by Paul Lugard and Dave Anderson.

Item 4: Work Products

The SG members approved the following work products presented by the working groups:

- Advocacy Working Group: Approaches to Identify Policies for Competition Assessment
- Cartel Working Group: Guidance on Enhancing Cross-Border Leniency Cooperation
- Merger Working Group: Conglomerate Mergers Project Report
- Unilateral Conduct Working Group: Report on the Results of the ICN Survey on Dominance/Substantial Market Power in Digital Markets.

Item 5: ICN/OECD

The ICN/OECD Liaison informed the SG members about the joint ICN/OECD webinar dedicated to the International Enforcement Cooperation project, which will take place on 9 July 2020.

Item 6: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 7: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will take place on 2 September 2020.