



ICN Steering Group Meeting
Wednesday, 7 July 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
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 thanked Alejandra Palacios, President of COFECE, Mexico, for her commitment to the ICN. The term of Ms Palacios as President of COFECE will come to an end in September 2021. The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 2 June 2021.

Item 2: ICN Annual Conference

The 2021 ICN Annual Conference will be hosted by the Hungarian Competition Agency (GVH) and it will take place from 13-15 October 2021 in a virtual format. The conference host updated the SG members on the status of the conference planning.

The ICN Secretariat presented the plenary speakers to the SG. The SG members highlighted the factors that need to be considered such as speaker diversity in terms of geography and gender, member agencies, private practice, academics, speaking experience and language

skills. The SG members approved the proposed speaker line-up and thanked the Co-chairs for organising the sessions.

Item 3: ICN Anniversary

The SG members discussed plans to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ICN on 25 October 2021 including an online compilation of brief videos and written reflections on the Network, and a plenary session featuring former ICN Chairs looking back and ahead.

Item 4: Younger Agencies

Ms Alejandra Palacios in her capacity as the ICN Vice-Chair for Young Agencies and Regional Diversity reported on the town hall “Younger Agencies in the Third Decade of the ICN” that took place on 22 June 2021. This successful event was structured as a panel with three breakout sessions which allowed for lively discussions.

Item 5: Leadership

Working Group Leadership:

The ICN Secretariat presented the working group leadership for the next ICN year. Each Working Group is chaired by three ICN member agencies. These Co-chairs serve staggered three-year terms. The rotation will take place in October 2021 at the Annual Conference:

- The Philippine competition authority will become co-chair in the Advocacy Working Group replacing the Norwegian authority. The Hong Kong Competition Commission will remain an Advocacy Working Group co-chair for another year.
- COFECE will become a co-chair of the Agency Effectiveness Working Group replacing the Swedish authority which will remain active in the group as a project lead.
- The Cartel Working Group will stay unchanged. The French Autorité offered to continue to serve as a co-chair for another ICN year in light of no qualified additional requests.
- The Norwegian authority will become co-chair of the Merger Working Group replacing the UK CMA.
- The US FTC will become a co-chair of the Unilateral Conduct Working Group replacing the Competition Commission of South Africa. The French Autorité will act as a project lead.

The Chair thanked all agencies involved for their commitment and flexibility. The SG members approved the future working group leadership.

Steering Group Membership:

According to the Operational Framework, the outgoing Steering Group shall recommend the composition of the incoming Steering Group to the ICN membership at the ICN Annual Conference. The ICN Secretariat presented expressions of interest for SG membership for the term 2021-2023: (1) Hellenic CC, (2) Bangladesh CC; (3) Colombian SIC, (4) Kenya CAK, (5) Philippine CC, (6) India CCI.

The Chair reminded the SG members that the ongoing Third Decade overhaul of the ICN Operational Framework includes a discussion on the number of SG members. The SG will continue the discussion at the September SG meeting.

Item 6: Cooperation

The ACCC, as one of the members of the Special Cooperation Group which consists of Italy AGCM, US FTC, Portugal AdC and Hungarian GVH, provided a high-level update on current work and outlined future activities to be carried out until the 2021 virtual Annual Conference.

Item 7: ICN Website

The ICN Secretariat presented amendments to the ICN website concerning the ICN Calendar and the members' directory.

Item i8: Other Business

N/A

Item 9: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will take place on 15 September 2021.