



ICN Steering Group Meeting
Wednesday, 10 June 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 SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 13 May 2020.

Item 2: ICN Communications

The Chair reminded SG members that in January 2018 the SG approved ICN tweeting guidelines drafted by Chris Fonteijn, during his capacity as Vice Chair for Communication. The guidelines follow a conservative approach and focus on ICN events. Given that currently the COVID-19 pandemic prevents the ICN from organizing in-person meetings like workshops and the Annual Conference, the SG members agreed to make use of Twitter in addition to the ICN website and the ICN Newsletter to promote work products and to keep ICN members, NGAs and the public informed of ICN activities. The ICN Twitter account will be maintained by the Chair in close cooperation with the ICN Horizontal Coordinator and ICN Vice Chair Tembinkosi

Bonakele, Commissioner of the South African Competition Commission. The SG members will consider an update of the ICN tweeting guidelines.

Item 3: ICN Annual Conferences

The US FTC and the US DoJ informed the SG members that they have made the decision to cancel the 2020 Annual Conference that had been rescheduled for September in Los Angeles, USA. Instead, the host agencies have already consulted with the Co-chairs in order to develop the ICN's first virtual conference to take place in the fall of 2020.

The 2021 ICN Annual Conference will be hosted by the Hungarian competition agency (GVH) and take place in Budapest from 20 to 23 April 2021. In case of longer lasting restrictions regarding in-person meetings and travelling due to the current pandemic, the GVH may consider 19 to 22 October 2021 as an alternative date. The GVH presented the topic for the 2021 special project which is "Sustainable Development and Competition Law". The SG members supported the proposed topic.

The ICN Secretariat informed the SG members that the competition authorities of the Sultanate of Oman, the UK and Uzbekistan have submitted expressions of interest to host the ICN Annual Conference in 2022. No decision will be made until formal proposals have been submitted to the SG members for consideration.

Item 4: Work Plans

The Co-chairs presented their projects for the ICN year 2020/21 and the ICN Horizontal Coordinator presented the report on the work plans. The SG members discussed and approved the work plans. The work plan of the Merger Working Group was not yet available and will be approved at a future ICN SG meeting.

Item 5: Work Products

The SG members approved the ITOD video training modules "Building Regional Relationships" produced by the JFTC, and "Assessing Public Interest Considerations in Competition Law" produced by the Competition Commission of South Africa.

The Unilateral Conduct Working Group Co-chairs informed the SG members that a work product on dominance in digital markets will be presented to the SG at the meeting on 8 July 2020.

Item 6: 3D

The Third Decade team presented a project plan circulated to the SG members before the meeting. The 3D Project has three core components: substantive content review, tools review, and operational framework review in coordination with the Operational Framework Working Group. 3D will report and assess ICN status within each of the three key areas and offer

recommendations. The project will seek input from all ICN members and interested NGAs. The SG members have approved the project plan.

Item 7: COVID-19

The Agency Effectiveness Working Group Co-chairs updated the SG on running projects in relation to COVID-19. The ICN work follows three strands: the SG statement published on the ICN website, an ICN SG webinar and a joint ICN/OECD webinar, and a list of measures taken by ICN members circulated to all ICN member agencies via e-mail. The list will be updated and circulated to ICN members again.

Item 8: Workshops

The ICN Secretariat informed the SG members that all ICN workshops planned for 2020 will be postponed. The Cartel Workshop will take place in the fall of 2021 in Portugal. The UC workshop will be hosted by the Indian Competition Commission in March 2021. The AEWG Chief Economist Workshop will take place in Norway in either spring or summer 2021. In addition, there are two additional Workshops planned for 2021, one of them being the Merger Workshop to be held in London. Furthermore, the Advocacy Working Group Co-chairs informed the SG that the competition authorities of Spain and Kenya will host the Advocacy Workshops 2021 und 2022, respectively. Given the numerous proposed workshops to be held in 2021, it is important that there be a frank discussion regarding the distribution of them and the possibility of rescheduling some of them. All working groups will consider hosting webinars in order to fill the gaps caused by the postponements.

Item 9: ICN/OECD

The ICN/OECD Liaison reported on the joint ICN/OECD work on cooperation, confirming the date of the webinar dedicated to the International Enforcement Cooperation project (9 July 2020), as well as details regarding process and next steps of the project. Isolde Lueckenhausen, on secondment at the OECD from the ACCC to work on this project, informed the SG about the content of the webinar and the upcoming draft project report. The release of the draft report, which will be open for feedback from ICN members, is planned for the end of July.

Item 9: Other business

No other business was reported.

Future SG meetings

The next SG meeting will take place on 8 July 2020.