



## **ICN Steering Group Meeting**

**Wednesday, 14 June 2023**

OECD Paris, Château Room D, 8:15 – 9:00

### **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  
Kenya Competition Authority  
Korean Fair Trade Commission  
Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission  
Portuguese Competition Authority  
Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore  
Competition Commission of South Africa  
Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission  
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 SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 26 April 2023.

### **Item 2: ICN Vice Chair and OECD Liaison**

After consultation with the SG members, the Chair nominated Ms Sia Aik Kor, CEO and Commissioner of the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (CCCS), as the new ICN Vice-Chair. The Chair highlighted Ms Sia Aik Kor's involvement in the ICN, her experienced international team, and her vision to further improve the Network's communication strategies. The SG members approved Ms Sia Aik Kor as the new Vice Chair.

The Chair nominated Ms Reiko Aoki, Commissioner of the Japan Fair Trade Commission and long-standing member of the OECD Committee und ICN SG, as the new ICN/OECD Liaison. The SG members approved Ms Reiko Aoki's nomination and thanked her for her willingness to take on this task.

The Chair invited the SG members to discuss whether the ICN Operational Framework should allow for more flexibility with regard to the number of Vice-Chairs. The SG members generally supported a more flexible approach, noting the high level of workload due to the virtual structure of the network. On the other hand, the SG members noted that the Operational Framework explicitly allows all SG members to lead initiatives without any limitation to Vice Chairs. Furthermore, SG members noted the importance of regional diversity for the global aspect of the ICN, while emphasizing that a system of regional representation would not be appropriate for the Network.

### Item 3: Vice Chair for Digital Issues: Tech Forum

The Vice Chair for digital economy issues presented future plans including a heads-of-agency breakout session on digital topics at the upcoming Annual Conference and the establishment of a forum for agency technologists within the ICN.

### Item 4: HC Interim Report

The ICN Horizontal Coordinator presented the Interim Report on the Working Group work plans for the 2023/2024 ICN year that had been circulated to the SG members in advance of the meeting. The final report will be presented by the Horizontal Coordinator after the Annual Conference.

The Chair briefly reported on two potential projects brought forward by NGAs; one on competition concerns in agriculture and food markets with a special focus on developing countries; the other project on the interface between competition reviews and foreign investment reviews. The SG members decided to form a group of interested SG members to further develop the first proposal and to explore options for a BOS at the upcoming Annual Conference. The SG members referred the second proposal to the Merger Working Group for consideration as a potential future topic.

### Item 5: Working Group Leadership Rotation

The Chair informed the SG members about expressions of interest to serve as SG member received by the ICN Secretariat as well as about expressions of interest to serve as Working Group Co-chair. The Chair highlighted the positive development of a growing number of agencies willing to take on leadership positions within the network and invest resources.

### Item 6: Annual Conference

The Spanish CNMC presented an update on the planning of the Annual Conference taking place in Barcelona from 18 to 20 October 2023 and informed the SG members that the ICN

Secretariat will ask for approval of the plenary session speaker line-up in a written procedure.

The Brazilian CADE presented the current planning status of the 2024 ICN Annual Conference including possible conference dates.

#### Item 7: OECD Liaison Report

The SG members were informed about current and future OECD projects.

#### Item 8: Other Business

No other business was reported.

#### Item 9: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meetings will take place on 6 September, 27 September and 20 October 2023 (Barcelona).