



**ICN Steering Group Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 16, 2016, 14:00 (CET)**

**Attendees**

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission  
Barbados Fair Trading Commission  
Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense  
Competition Bureau Canada  
European Commission DG Competition  
French Autorité de la concurrence  
German Bundeskartellamt  
Japan Fair Trade Commission  
Italian Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato  
Korean Fair Trade Commission  
Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission  
Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets  
Portuguese Competition Authority  
Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service  
Competition 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

**Invitees**

Colombian Superintendancy of Industry and Commerce  
Finnish Competition and Consumer Authority

**Item 1: Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

The Chair Andreas Mundt welcomed the Steering Group (SG) members.

The SG approved the proposed agenda and the minutes of the SG meeting on 17 February 2016.

**Item 2: Town Hall Teleconference Series**

The Chair debriefed the SG on the Town Hall Teleconference series dealing with the interaction of competition policy and other government policies. The second call took place on 8 March 2016. Francis Kariuki, Director General of the Competition Authority of Kenya,

Randolph Tritell, Director of the US FTC's Office of International Affairs, and Henk Don, Member of the Board of the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets, discussed competition and industrial policy considerations. The presentations were followed by a lively debate.

The Chair reminded the SG members that the third Town Hall Teleconference will take place on 12 April 2016 at 1pm CET. It will deal with state-owned enterprises. Speakers will include Bruno Lasserre, President of the Autorité de la concurrence, France, and Toh Han Li, Chief Executive of the Competition Commission of Singapore.

### Item 3: Second Decade Review

The Chair presented the draft report on the Second Decade Follow-up Survey to NGAs circulated to the SG members ahead of the SG meeting. The report summarizes the responses as provided by the NGAs as a basis for an open discussion and further reflection in the SG, at the ICN roundtable on the future of the ICN in its second decade in Washington, D.C. on 5 April 2016, and at the ICN Annual Conference in Singapore on 29 April 2016.

The survey was sent to about 450 recipients, of which 62 NGAs participated. NGAs value the ICN's work and appreciate the possibility to exchange experiences and discuss cases at workshops and the Annual Conference. Written work products are considered very useful. The majority of the NGAs said that they would like to be more involved in the activities of the ICN. NGAs have suggestions on how to increase awareness and implementation including better advertisement of work products on the websites of national authorities, in publications, speeches and social media. Furthermore, the ICN website should be improved. There are several suggestions on specific topics that the ICN should address, for example issues related to leniency and intellectual property rights. Looking at the future, many NGAs would like the ICN to reach greater convergence of national competition laws.

The members and the NGA reports will be combined into a single document. It will not be a final report, but a basis for further discussions starting in ICN events being held in Washington, D.C. and in Singapore, in April 2016. The document will include a list or table summarizing all suggestions advanced by ICN members and NGAs. The Chair pointed out that a lot of what has been suggested is already available or planned. The working groups are again invited to comment on the results of the surveys. The reports will be discussed in a plenary session at the Annual Conference in Singapore. Speakers will include Randy Tritell, Cal Goldman and Francis Kariuki and the Chair will moderate the session.

### Item 4: Working Group Work Plans

The Chair thanked the Horizontal Coordinator for an excellent interim report circulated ahead of the SG meeting. The Chair highlighted the importance of the discussion. The SG wants to ensure that the ICN takes on the right projects that matter most for the Network's diverse membership and have a real impact on practical work, broad input from members and high quality of the work products. The SG is well aware that many members have to cope with a lack of resources.

The Horizontal Coordinator presented the interim report. Statements from each of the working groups followed. The working group co-chairs presented their priorities, touched on implementation efforts and highlighted projects aiming at younger agencies.

The working groups will finalize their work plans after the Annual Conference to accommodate additional ideas that might emerge from the discussions at the Annual Conference in Singapore. For example additional work products could be implemented for the project group that will deal with vertical restraints and which is currently formed within the Unilateral Working Group.

The Chair welcomed the balanced combination of interesting new projects and updates of existing work products and encouraged the working groups to develop ICN recommended practices which are widely recognized as standards throughout the world.

#### Item 5: Update on the 2016 Annual Conference

The Competition Commission of Singapore provided an update on the 2016 Annual Conference.

Regarding media access the SG agreed that the approach applied at the 2015 Annual Conference will pursue in Singapore. Media representatives (as all other conference participants) need to be accredited as a participant by conference organizer in order to be able to attend. Full media access will be granted to all plenary sessions without any restrictions. As a general rule access to the Breakout Sessions is granted to the media under the Chatham House Rule. This is defined as follows: *When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.* Exceptions from the general rule may apply to sensitive breakout sessions in which media participation would hinder free and open discussions (e.g. heads of agency sessions, session for young agencies by young agencies, agency only sessions). Access to these sensitive breakout sessions should only be restricted by working groups or moderators after coordination with the Chair's Office.

#### Item 6: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will be held on April 5, 2016.