



**ICN Steering Group Meeting  
Wednesday, 25 March 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 19 February 2020.

**Item 2: Annual Conference 2020**

The joint Annual Conference hosts informed the SG members about the decision to postpone the 2020 Annual Conference to September 2020.

The SG members decided that the May SG meeting will nevertheless take place and mark the transition to the new ICN year 2020/2021. The transition process will permit sufficient flexibility regarding work plans, approval of working group work products as well as working group leadership.

### Item 3: COVID-19

SG members discussed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the ICN and on competition agencies including implications for their internal organization as well as work on substance.

The Chair noted that even for the ICN as a virtual organization the pandemic raises organisational issues, e.g. with regard to international conference calls. The Chair informed the SG members that the ICN Secretariat and the working group Co-chairs are working on solutions and will keep the SG informed. The Chair also noted that also internal agency processes can be affected by the crisis and that a number of agencies have published messages on how they react. As a third aspect the Chair highlighted possible implications for the agencies' work on substance and referred to the joint statement issued by the competition authorities in the European Competition Network on how to apply the European competition rules during the crisis.

The SG members decided to work on an ICN statement on competition during the COVID-19 pandemic and to explore additional measures to support ICN members.

### Item 4: ICN Steering Group Project on Competition, Consumer Protection and Privacy

The project Co-chairs provided an update on the Project on Competition, Consumer Protection and Privacy.

The Competition Bureau Canada expressed interest to join ACCC and AGCM as a third Co-chair with dedicated resources for the SG project. The Chair thanked the Bureau which received strong support from many SG members including the project Co-chairs ACCC and AGCM and was approved as a third Co-chair in a written procedure following the SG meeting.

### Item 5: Other Business

The Chair updated the SG members on the ICN@20 book project organized by Paul Lugard and David Anderson and informed the SG members about the possibility that the project will be postponed.

The ICN Secretariat presented the 2019-2020 ICN Specified Purposes Account which was approved by the SG.

### Item 6: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meetings will be held on 29 April 2020.