



ICN Steering Group Meeting Wednesday, 9 October 2024

Attendees

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense
Competition Bureau Canada
Competition Commission of India
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
Korea Fair Trade Commission
Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission
Philippine Competition Commission
Portuguese Competition Authority
Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore
Competition Commission of South Africa
Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission
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 of 4 September 2024.

Item 2: Merger Working Group Status Reports

The Merger Working Group presented the ongoing work with a focus on the ICN Recommended Practices for Merger Analysis, which includes several updates as well as new sections. The SG members appreciated the Working Group's ambitious work plan while noting the importance of active participation. Based on this, the SG members encouraged the Working Group Co-chairs to re-evaluate the overall workload in order not to overburden members.

The ICN/OECD Liaison informed the SG members about the OECD revised draft Recommendation on Merger Review.

Item 3: ICN Annual Conference

The UK CMA provided an update on the planning for the 2025 Annual Conference in Edinburgh from 7 to 9 May 2025. The event host informed the SG members that a draft conference agenda will be presented for SG approval at the meeting scheduled for December 2024.

Item 4: Workshops

COFECE, Mexico, reported back from the 2024 ICN Cartel Workshop, which took place from 2 to 4 October in Mexico City. The SG members thanked COFECE for hosting the successful event.

The SG members approved the Hungarian GVH as the host of the 2025 ICN Chief/Senior Economists Workshop in Budapest from 23 to 25 April 2025.

CADE expressed their interest in hosting the next Unilateral Conduct Workshop in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The Chair briefly presented the status of the 2025/26 Cartel Workshop host selection and highlighted potential Operational Framework issues involved.

Item 5: Operational Framework

The Operational Framework Working Group informed the SG members about a series of three group calls scheduled for October 2024.

Item 6: NGA involvement

The ICN NGA Liaison initiated a first exchange on NGA involvement in the ICN. The SG members noted the importance of a well-grounded understanding of the current status of NGA involvement as a basis for future discussions.

Item 7: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 8: Future SG meetings

The next SG meetings will take place on: 6 November, 4 December (Paris), 15 January, 19 February, April (tbc), 9 May (Edinburgh).