



ICN Steering Group Meeting

Wednesday, 4 September 2024

Attendees

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense
Colombian Superintendence of Industry and Commerce
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
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 12 June 2024. The Chair and the SG members welcomed the Philippine Competition Commission as an ex-officio SG member.

Item 2: Transition Process

The SG members discussed the process and timing of handing over the ICN Secretariat and in this context also the Chair selection process. SG members approved a timeline which provides stability and continuity and at the same time addresses potential concerns regarding regional diversity. The selection of the Secretariat by the SG and the handover to the new Secretariat is planned for the SG meeting in January 2025.

Preliminary expressions of interest for the Chair position are invited for the SG meeting scheduled to take place in December 2024 and will be presented at that meeting. The selection process specified in the Operational Framework will be initiated three months before the Annual Conference 2025. The ICN Chair and the Chair's Office will be passed on at the 2025 ICN Annual Conference in Edinburgh.

SG members also discussed the tasks and structure of the ICN Secretariat and decided that the future ICN Secretariat will be designed as a multi-agency team, including an "anchor" agency which will take on the Secretariat's core tasks and coordinate the team. The new structure will be evaluated and adjusted as necessary and appropriate. October 4 is the deadline for interested volunteers to send their expression of interest.

Item 3: ICN Operational Framework

The Operational Framework Working Group informed the SG members that it had circulated a redline version of the revised Operational Framework within the drafting group and asked for comments. A drafting call to discuss the input received will be scheduled in the near future.

Item 4: ICN Annual Conference

The UK CMA reported on the planning of the 2025 Annual Conference to be held in Edinburgh from 7 to 9 May 2025.

The Chair reported on the outcome of the selection process of the 2026 and 2027 Annual Conferences hosts and thanked SG members for their valuable input.

Item 5: Workshop

The SG members approved the Mauritius Competition Commission as host of the 2025 ICN Merger Workshop.

Item 6: Membership

The ICN SG members approved the applications from the competition agencies of Rwanda and Aruba. Furthermore, the SG members greatly appreciated the interest shown by the Libyan Competition and Antitrust Council (LCAC) in the Network but there were some questions regarding if they met the criteria to join the Network. As such, SG member decided for the Membership WG co-chairs to continue reviewing the application and invited the LCAC to participate in ICN webinars and events on a case by case basis.

Item 7: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 8: Future SG meetings

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