



ICN Steering Group Meeting
Wednesday, 16 October 2019, 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 Competition Authority
Italian Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato
Japan Fair Trade Commission
Korean Fair Trade Commission
Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission
Portuguese Autoridade da Concorrência
Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation
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

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 October 16, 2019.

Item 2: ICN Vice Chair

The Chair reminded the SG members that the term of Toh Han Li at CCCS had ended on 30 September 2019. Sia Aik Kor, the new Chief Executive of the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore, replaced Toh Han Li in the SG, but the role of ICN Vice Chair is not linked to the agency but to the respective agency head.

The Chair, after consultation with the Steering Group, nominated Tembinkosi Bonakele, Commissioner of the South African Competition Commission, as new Vice Chair. The SG members approved Commissioner Bonakele as Vice Chair. The Vice Chairs area of work will be defined together with the ICN Vice Chair for Younger Agencies and Regional Diversity, Alejanda Palacios, COFECE.

Item 3: Working Group leadership

The Chair informed the SG members that the competition authority of Botswana will act as Co-chair of the Agency Effectiveness Working Group together with the Swedish competition authority and the Canadian Competition Bureau.

Item 4: Vice Chair for Young Agencies and Regional Diversity

The Vice Chair for Young Agencies and Regional Diversity presented the “Bridging Project” to increase ICN outreach and involvement of younger agencies. The Vice Chair proposed to organize the activities of SG members, which already offer information and support and engage with less active members of the network informally, under the auspices of the Vice-Chair for Younger Agencies and Regional Diversity and coordinated by the Promotion & Implementation Team. Examples of the proposed work to be conducted under the “Bridging Project” are as follows: (i) Encourage even more SG members to become active in outreach efforts; (ii) Provide them with the opportunity to engage less active members; (iii) Ensure SG members have a mechanism to report back on their experiences so as to collect good practice which can be shared amongst colleagues; and (iv) Monitor the project at the ICN2020 Annual Conference, e.g. as part of the Younger Agencies session. The SG members approved the proposal. As a first step, the ICN Vice-Chair together with the Chair will send an explanation of the pilot program and invitation to all ICN members.

Item 5: Competition, Consumer & Privacy

The Chair invited SG members to discuss the potential design and implementation of a SG project dealing with issues at the intersection of competition, consumer protection and data privacy from the perspective of competition agencies. The discussion was based on a scoping note circulated in preparation of the SG meeting. Several SG members strongly supported the proposal and offered help and suggestions to refine it. One SG member expressed reservations.

Item 6: Cartel Workshop

The Cartel Working Group co-chairs reported back from the 16th Cartel Workshop hosted by CADE in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, from 7 to 10 October 2019, which gathered 202 competition officials including NGAs from 46 jurisdictions.

The SG approved the Portuguese Autoridade da Concorrência as host of the 2020 Cartel Workshop.

Item 7: ICN Membership

The SG approved the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, Nigeria, and the Competition Protection and Monopoly Prevention Centre, Sultanate of Oman, as ICN members.

Item 8: ICN CAP

The ICN CAP Co-Chairs presented the ICN CAP work plan circulated in preparation of the SG meeting. Furthermore, the ICN CAP Co-Chairs reported back a discussion held during a BOS at on the margins of the 2020 Cartel Workshop.

Item 9: Other Business

No other business was reported.

Item 10: Future SG Meetings

The next SG meeting will be held on 4 December 2019.