



News Release

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION NETWORK SETS OUT VISION FOR SECOND DECADE

THE HAGUE, May 20, 2011 – John Fingleton, Chair of the International Competition Network (ICN) has set out the vision for the ICN's next decade at its 10th Annual Conference in The Hague.

The new [vision document](#) presented to the conference calls for greater cooperation and convergence among competition agencies around the world to address the competition issues arising in increasingly internationalised markets.

The conference formally adopted the new ICN mission statement 'to advocate the adoption of superior standards and procedures in competition enforcement and policy around the world, formulate proposals for procedural and substantive convergence, and seek to facilitate effective international cooperation to the benefit of member agencies, consumers and economies worldwide.'

Consistent with this mission, the ICN will pursue four high-level goals in its second decade:

- Encourage the dissemination of competition experience and best practices

- Formulate proposals for procedural and substantive convergence through a results-oriented agenda and structure
- Support competition advocacy
- Facilitate effective international cooperation.

John Fingleton, Chair of the ICN Steering Group said:

'Over the past decade, the ICN's work has had a major impact on the practice of many ICN members, and influenced legal and policy reforms in many jurisdictions. Over the next decade, as markets become increasingly internationalised, we need to work harder to address the challenges of international competition policy for the benefit of our members, consumers and economies worldwide.'

The ICN Annual Conference, which was held from May 18 – 20, 2011 in The Hague, was hosted by The Netherlands Competition Authority (NMa). Almost 500 participants from 92 jurisdictions were present, representing most of the ICN's membership of 117 competition agencies, as well as representatives from the private bar, academia, government, the press, international organisations, consumer bodies, think-tanks and consultancies.

Further information about the conference is available on the website at www.icn-thehague.org

NOTES

1. The International Competition Network was founded by 15 competition agencies on 25 October 2001, with the objective of addressing antitrust enforcement and

policy issues of common interest and formulating proposals for procedural and substantive convergence through a results-oriented agenda and structure. Its membership has since grown to 117 competition agencies from 103 jurisdictions. The ICN also benefits from the participation of non-governmental advisors (NGA), representatives from the legal, economic, business, academic and consumer communities.

2. The Annual Conference highlighted the recent work of the ICN working groups on cartels, competition advocacy, competition agency effectiveness, mergers and unilateral conduct. It also showcased the work of certain Steering Group members responsible for competition advocacy and implementation, the curriculum project and liaising with NGAs. This year's accomplishments include:
 - Chapter on "Case Resolution" of the Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual;
 - Compilation of "Good Practices" from the Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual;
 - A Competition Advocacy Toolkit and competition advocacy posting facility on the ICN Web site;
 - a Spanish language version of the Draft ICN Market Studies Good Practice Handbook and a report on the 'road-testing' of the Handbook and Market Studies Information Store;
 - Chapters on "Effective Project Delivery" of the Competition Agency Practice Manual and the launch of a project on "Effective Knowledge Management";
 - a Comprehensive Assessment of the use and impact of the ICN's existing work product in the area of mergers, and new areas of work that may assist members in making their merger review process more effective;
 - Chapter on "Assessment of Dominance" of the Unilateral Conduct Workbook;
 - the Advocacy and Implementation Network's Support Program, whereby member agencies can request assistance with understanding and implementing ICN work products;
 - the first video training modules of the Curriculum Project, a comprehensive curriculum of training materials to serve as a virtual university on competition law and practice for competition agency officials;
 - projects to bring about better coordination between the ICN and other international organisations concerned with competition policy; and
 - an NGA toolkit.
3. The Eleventh ICN Annual Conference will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from April 17 – 20, 2012.

4. For more information, please visit the ICN Web site at www.internationalcompetitionnetwork.org.

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