



**ICN Steering Group Meeting
May 20, 2011**

From 13:00 to 14:00 (The Hague time)

Attendees:

- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato (Italy)
- Autorité de la concurrence (France)
- Barbados Fair Trading Commission
- Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense
- Brazilian Secretariat for Economic Monitoring
- Brazilian Secretariat of Economic Law of Ministry of Justice
- Bundeskartellamt (Germany)
- Competition Bureau Canada
- European Commission DG Competition
- Japan Fair Trade Commission
- Korea Fair Trade Commission
- Mexico Federal Competition Commission
- Netherlands Competition Authority
- Polish Office of Competition and Consumer Protection
- Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service
- Turkish Competition Authority
- United Kingdom Office of Fair Trading
- United States Department of Justice
- United States Federal Trade Commission

Apologies:

- South African Competition Commission

Draft Minutes

Election of Steering Group Chair

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Steering Group (SG) members nominated and approved John Fingleton to be the SG Chair for another two years. The election year and term of the Steering Group Chair is based on Section 3.4 (i) and (ii) of the ICN's Operational Framework.

1. Approval of Draft Agenda and Previous Minutes

The meeting agenda was approved. SG members were asked to send any comments on the draft minutes of the May 20, 2011 SG meeting to the ICN Secretariat (ICN.Secretariat@cb-bc.gc.ca) by May 27, 2011.

2. Welcome new members

The Chair welcomed two new SG members: the Barbados Fair Trading Commission and the Polish Office of Competition and Consumer Protection (which has joined as an *ex officio* member). The Chair also welcomed the Turkish Competition Authority and the Netherlands Competition Authority as elected SG members (who were already part of the SG as *ex-officio* members).

3. Approval of location of the 2012 Cartel workshop

SG members approved the Panamanian Authority for Consumer Protection and the Defense of Competition to host the 2012 Cartel Workshop.

4. Review of 2011 ICN Annual Conference

SG members expressed their praise for the Annual Conference and thanked the Netherlands Competition Authority for hosting a very successful conference. Other high level comments made by SG members included:

- Longer breakout and shorter plenaries worked well. Some SG members mentioned that they preferred longer plenaries. Another comment was to focus on the substance/format of plenaries to make them more interactive, rather than solely on length;
- The roundtable format was a great improvement for interaction during breakout sessions;
- Lots of opportunities for networking during the lunch breaks and social events;
- The use of the voting system was an excellent way for conference attendees to be more engaged during the plenary sessions;
- The limit on the number of times one person could participate as a plenary speaker was well received;
- The ‘game’ devised by the hosts was an innovative idea for conference attendees to meet each other in a relaxed way; and
- Having free internet access was an excellent addition.

Draft for publication

SG members expressed concerns with the overall costs of the Annual Conference, which might lead to difficulties in finding future member host agencies. High level comments made by SG members related to:

- The possibility of charging a fee to NGAs for attend the Conference (such as a fee for attending the social events);
- The possibility of eliminating one of the social events;
- The possibility of sponsoring NGAs from younger jurisdictions or emerging economies who would not otherwise be able to attend (a suggestion from the optional breakout session for NGAs).

A suggestion was also made to invite judges to attend future ICN Conferences.

5. Other Business

New Issues for ICN SG agenda

SG members for future topics included:

- Cooperation, following the Roundtable on Enforcement Cooperation held in Washington, D.C. in March 2010. It was noted that the Merger Working Group will look at reforming its work products in relation to cooperation issues and the Cartel Working Group will have a teleseminar on this topic.
- ICN members were interested in having another Agency Effectiveness Workshop, as they have been very useful.
- Issues related to procedural fairness.
- ICN should work with regional platforms, which would be a great vehicle to showcase ICN work products.

6. Future Meetings of the Steering Group

- Wednesday, June 29, 2011 (on the margins of the OECD meeting)