

ICN Steering Group meeting, 15 February 2012

Note from the Chair

9 February 2012

Dear colleagues

There are three items on the agenda for our call next week:

- (i) ICN-OECD Liaison;
- (ii) Working with Courts/Judges and Investigative Process; and
- (iii) 2012 ICN Annual Conference

Should Steering Group members wish to raise any additional items for discussion, please inform the ICN Secretariat (Secretariat.ICN@bc-cb.gc.ca) by Friday 10 February.

ICN-OECD Liaison

Our ICN-OECD Liaison, Philip Collins, will provide a brief update.

Working with Courts/Judges and Investigative Process

Courts/judges

The leaders of our project on working with courts/judges will present a draft issues paper for discussion. The draft builds on our discussions in December, as well the helpful contributions provided by SG members following the call.

The goal of our discussion next week should be to give project leaders clear feedback on the issues and possible actions identified in the paper so that it can be converted into a final version for SG approval and eventual presentation at the 2012 Annual Conference.

Investigative Process

At our 25 January meeting, SG members supported the issues and possible actions identified in the draft issues paper presented by the co- leaders of our project on investigative process. Next week, project leaders will present a final issues paper and proposed mandate for Steering Group approval. They will also discuss how they will get member feedback on the proposed mandate.

2012 ICN Annual Conference

CADE will provide an update on conference planning on behalf of BCPS and ACPC, and ask members to consider possible fee structures for the conference dinner on Thursday, 19 April, 2012.

Fees for Conference Dinner

At our 14 December meeting, CADE reminded SG members that the Brazilian government forbids use of public funds for conference social events, and therefore, they were pursuing non-public funding options for the welcome reception and conference dinner. CADE also invited SG members to consider the possibility of charging a fee for social events to the extent that non-public funding was not sufficient to cover the costs of the events. They agreed to come back to SG when there was further information on the sources and level of non-public funding.

Since then, CADE has received full funding for the conference welcome reception on 17 April and partial funding for the conference dinner on 19 April, subject to approval by the Brazilian Ethics Commission. They would like to seek SG guidance on the following two items:

- (1) That there will be a per person fee for the conference dinner, attendance at which will be optional.
- (2) Should we apply different fees for ICN members and (non-academic) NGAs (e.g., a discount for government officials and academics)?

I look forward to seeing you in Paris next week.

Best regards

John