



**ICN Steering Group Meeting
March 27, 2012**

From 8:15 to 9:30 am (Ottawa time)

Attendees:

- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato
- Autorité de la concurrence
- Barbados Fair Trading Commission
- Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE)
- Brazilian Secretariat for Economic Monitoring
- Brazilian Secretariat of Economic Law of Ministry of Justice
- Bundeskartellamt
- 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
- South African Competition Commission
- Turkish Competition Authority
- United Kingdom Office of Fair Trading
- United States Department of Justice
- United States Federal Trade Commission
- Portuguese Competition Authority (guest)

Draft Minutes

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 March 13, 2012, SG meeting to the ICN Secretariat (ICN.Secretariat@cb-bc.gc.ca) by April 3, 2012.

2. Approval of Working Group work plans

Working Group 2012-2013 work plans were approved following a report from the Horizontal coordinator and presentations from each of the groups.¹

The Chair suggested that Working Groups produce long-term (5-year) work plans for the June Steering Group meeting on the margins of OECD. The Chair also asked that Working Groups consider whether the work plan approval process could be improved (e.g., would it be better for plans to be approved after the Annual Conference?) and to report back to SG at the June meeting.

The Chair thanked the Horizontal Coordinator and Working Groups for their efforts.

3. Approval of Working Group Co-Chairs

Following recommendations from current Working Group co-chairs, Steering Group members approved new co-chairs for vacancies in the respective groups.² The rotation of co-chairs is summarised in the table below.

Working Group	Rotating-out	Rotating-in
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAS Russia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competition Commission of Mauritius
Agency Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CADE Brazil Turkish Competition Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. Federal Trade Commission Norwegian Competition Authority
Cartel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC DGComp Hungarian Competition Authority <p><u>SG 1 Legal Framework:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. Department of Justice --- <p><u>SG 2 Enforcement Techniques:</u></p> <p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bundeskartellamt (Germany) U.S. Department of Justice <p><u>SG1 Legal Framework:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC DGComp Colombia's Superintendence of Industry and Commerce <p><u>SG2 Enforcement Techniques:</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
Merger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. Department of Justice Irish Competition Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC DGComp [TBD]
Unilateral Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. Federal Trade Commission Bundeskartellamt (Germany) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Office of Fair Trading Turkish Competition Authority

¹ See Appendix for the Horizontal Coordinator's "Overview of Working Group 2012-2013 Annual Work Plans" circulated in advance of the meeting.

² See section 4.2 of the *ICN Operational Framework*.

4. Approval of Enforcement Cooperation Issues Paper

Following a presentation from project leaders, the paper was approved.

SG members welcomed ongoing cooperation with the OECD as this project moves forward.

5. Approval of Merger Cooperation Framework Proposal

Following a presentation from the JFTC, the proposal was approved.

6. Curriculum Project

The US FTC reported that four new curriculum modules would be presented at the annual conference on the subjects of: competitive effects, merger analysis, leniency, predatory pricing.

7. 2012 Annual Conference Update

CADE reported that BCPS had received funding to hold cocktail receptions on the opening evening of the conference, Tuesday April 17, 2012, as well as on Thursday April 19, 2012. Approximately 450 attendees have registered for the annual conference.

8. Other Business

The Chair reported that the Secretariat would shortly be circulating travel funding recommendations for approval, as well as an e-mail asking members to provide views on the possible 2014 Annual Conference hosts.

9. Future Meetings of the Steering Group

- Wednesday, April 18, 2012 (short special meeting on first day of annual conference, 1:30 p.m. Rio de Janeiro time)
- Friday, April 20, 2012 (last day of annual conference, 1:30 p.m Rio de Janeiro time)

Appendix: Overview of Working Group 2012-2013 Annual Work Plans

Advocacy	<p><u>New products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ‘Promoting Competition Culture’ Project: seeks to define ‘competition culture’ and examine how competition agencies interact with the various components of competition cultures▪ Advocacy Workshop to be held in Paris (26-27 October, 2012), hosted by Autorite de la concurrence, France. <p><u>Products continued from previous years:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ‘Raising Awareness of the Benefits of Competition Project’ (the Benefits Project):<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prepare Experience Report on based on materials from teleseminars held in 2011-2012- Prepare Handbook summarising best practices- Prepare Review of methods of evaluating interventions and explaining benefits▪ Competition Advocacy Postings on the AWG pages of the ICN website, facilitating competition advocacy dialogue amongst ICN members and NGAs▪ Market Studies Information Store will be updated on an ongoing basis▪ 3-4 teleseminars on ‘Competition Advocacy Experience Sharing’.
Agency Effectiveness	<p><u>New products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Competition Agency Practice Manual:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- conclude and promote ‘Effective Product Delivery’ chapter- conclude and promote Effective Knowledge Management chapter- draft Human Resource Management chapter.▪ Investigative Process project: begin survey work, consider guidance work on confidentiality or transparency▪ Organise an Agency Heads Roundtable Discussion.

<p>Cartel</p>	<p><u>New products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Call series on leniency (monthly calls from September to April 2012) ▪ Prepare a chapter for the Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual on ‘International Cooperation and Information Sharing’ ▪ Update existing templates and complete new templates ▪ Cartel Workshop to be held in Panama (2-4 October, 2012), hosted by ACODECO.
<p>Merger</p>	<p><u>New products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project on Economic Analysis in Merger Review: update Chapter 4 of the 2005 ICN Investigative Techniques Handbook for Merger Review, including possible teleseminars/webinars to inform the drafting process. ▪ 2 – 3 teleseminars/webinars on current merger topics ▪ Assessment of the level of use and implementation of MWG products ▪ Further work on the ICN Framework for Merger Review Cooperation ▪ Review work product relating to international merger enforcement cooperation. <p><u>Potential products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ICN Merger Workshop.
<p>Unilateral Conduct</p>	<p><u>New products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unilateral Conduct Workbook: develop a chapter on exclusive dealing/single branding. ▪ 2 or more Regional Unilateral Conduct Workshops: Singapore (24-25 July, 2012) and Mexico. ▪ 3 teleseminars ▪ Additional posts on the ICN blog. <p><u>Potential Products:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare one or more additional chapters for the Unilateral Conduct Workbook ▪ Recommended Practices or Other Guidance: to discuss ▪ Consider further work identified in the UCWG’s Long Term Plan ▪ Development of additional training modules as part of the ICN’s Curriculum Project, including possibility of training webinars.