

ICN STEERING GROUP MEETING
Friday, April 26, 2013
2:00-3:00 pm, Sheraton Warsaw Hotel

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Barbados Fair Trading Commission
Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense
Competition Bureau Canada
European Commission DG Competition
French Autorité de la concurrence
German Bundeskartellamt
Japan Fair Trade Commission
Italian Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato
Korea Fair Trade Commission
Mexico Federal Competition Commission
Moroccan Conseil de la Concurrence
Netherlands Competition Authority
Polish Office of Competition and Consumer Protection
Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service
Comision Nacional de la Competencia
Turkish Competition Authority
United Kingdom Office of Fair Trading
United States Department of Justice
United States Federal Trade Commission

Item 1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The Steering Group approved the proposed agenda, as well as the minutes of the April 10 meeting (subject to any comments submitted to the Secretariat by May 10).

Item 2. Review of 2013 Annual Conference

The Chair congratulated Małgorzata Krasnodębska-Tomkiel and her staff at the Polish Office of Competition and Consumer Protection (UOKiK) on an outstanding conference and working group chairs on another successful year. Steering Group members also expressed their gratitude to UOKiK and praised the conference, including particular praise for the breadth of topics covered in plenary sessions as well as the depth of the substantive discussions, and for the UOKiK's flawless organization of the whole conference. Steering Group members also offered a number of suggestions for consideration in planning next year's annual conference in Marrakech, including the role of the breakout sessions, the role of younger agencies, and broadening the audience beyond competition agencies.

Steering Group members encouraged an examination of the role of breakout sessions, which traditionally have provided an opportunity for small group discussion.

This year, the format of most of the breakout sessions was more like plenary sessions, with speakers and presentations. Some members found this format limited discussion and that breakout sessions should provide an opportunity for discussion

and debate, rather than replicate plenary sessions. Others commented on the high quality of the presentations and suggested the planning committee (ACPC) consider having a mix of breakout session formats.

It was noted that the set up of the room is important as is the number of breakout session leaders. For example, a member noted that OECD style tables and limited set speakers (possibly only a single moderator) can help facilitate discussion. With fewer set presentations, instead working groups could ask a few delegates to be prepared to share their experience from the floor (which was done by Working Groups at past conferences) in order to stimulate discussion. A tip sheet for planning breakout sessions was prepared for past conferences and it was suggested ACPC review this document.

Steering Group members also noted that it was important to include more speakers from younger agencies in plenary sessions and that ACPC should consider how they might promote this with working groups. More generally, Steering Group members noticed the importance of finding channels to allow for more participation both at the conference and at the working group level during the ICN year.

A final suggestion was that the conference hosts and working groups consider continuing to hold panel and small group discussions with other parties, such as judges, and other international organizations.

It was suggested an evaluation form should be circulated to conference delegates and that the Steering Group communicate the results of the evaluation and the SG discussion to working group chairs.

Abdelali Benamour, President of the Conseil de la Concurrence du Maroc and 2014 conference host, is considering ways to encourage greater participation by African ICN members in the Annual Conference and will provide ideas to the Steering Group. The Autorité de la concurrence offered assistance in support of this effort, noting that French will be one of the official languages of the conference.

Item 3. Other Business

The KFTC, on behalf of the Membership Working Group, raised the approval process for ICN membership and agreed to circulate further details to the Steering Group on a framework for assessing the qualification of an applicant and approving new members.

The Chair proposed and the Steering Group agreed he could send a letter to former ICN chairs and vice chairs to get their feedback on the ICN.

For the remainder of the meeting, Steering Group members identified possible discussion topics for the Steering Group meetings for the 2013-14 ICN year. The Chair suggested three topics: regional outreach initiatives to new or less engaged members, implementation, and communication. Two specific ideas included reviewing the network's organizational structure and using regional networks more actively as an implementation strategy to promote the use of ICN work product. Other ideas offered by Steering Group members include:

- Additional work to support the three areas of priority outline in SG Chair Eduardo Perez Motta's [closing remarks](#) – promoting competition policy and

- principles with economic policymakers; developing recommended practices; and continuing to look for opportunities to promote ICN work product.
- Continued work on balancing working group workload, assessing the quality and relevance of ICN work product, and developing a process for drafting workplans earlier in the year, to facilitate workload and quality control discussions.
 - The use of social media, including creating an ICN Facebook page.

The OECD liaison also discussed continued cooperation with OECD on the international cooperation project and reminded working groups that their feedback is needed in advance of the June OECD Steering Group meeting.

Item 4. Future Meetings of the Steering Group

The next meetings will take place on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, and then on June 19, 2013 at 8:00am on the margins of the OECD meetings.