

Note from the Chair for the February 26, 2014 Steering Group Meeting

Dear colleagues,

As you all will be aware the ICN is more busy than ever. Working Groups (WGs) have taken up speed again after the Christmas break and are working intensely to move forward their projects in preparation for the Annual Conference. The face-to-face meeting in Paris will provide us with an excellent opportunity to discuss recent, on-going and proposed work to define our priorities for future planning.

Membership

This meeting will also give us the opportunity to welcome Lord Currie as the Chairman of the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) that will take on the competition enforcement responsibilities of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and Competition Commission (CC) on 1 April 1, 2014. He will request that the new organisation be admitted as a member, effective from April 1, 2014 and propose that the CMA takes over the OFT's seat on the Steering Group and its role as co-chair of the Unilateral Conduct Working Group.

The Chairman Mr. José María Marín Quemada of the Spanish National Authority for Markets and Competition, formerly the Spanish National Competition Authority, will request that the new agency remains an ICN member.

Workshops

The Italian Competition Authority will provide a debrief of the 2013 Advocacy Workshop that was held from December 12-13, 2013 in Rome, Italy.

Annual Conference

The Competition Council of Morocco (MCC) will provide an update on the conference planning, the logistics and the special project for the 2014 Annual Conference. The 2014 Annual Conference will be held in Marrakech on April 22-25, 2014.

The MCC will also provide a brief update on the pre-ICN conference.

Work plan Discussion

The Horizontal Coordinator and the Chair will lead a discussion on the WGs draft work plans and the envisaged SG project on vertical restraints. Based on a first brief analysis of the short versions of the work plans, SG members will be invited to discuss priorities and overall work load. WG Chairs may be asked for elaboration of their work plans to facilitate the discussion.



19 February 2014

Other business

The Chair will provide an update on the 2014-2016 Working Group Chair Rotation and the 2016 Annual Conference Host Selection Process.

I look forward to seeing many of you next week.

With best regards,

Andreas Mundt