

THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION NETWORK ANNOUNCES NEW CHAIR, NEW PROJECTS, AND SETS OUT VISION FOR ENHANCED GLOBAL ADVOCACY

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil April 20, 2012 – The Eleventh Annual Conference of the International Competition Network (ICN) successfully concluded on Friday. Over 450 delegates from more than 80 jurisdictions, including over 150 private sector representatives from the legal, economic, academic, and business communities, attended the International Competition Network’s Eleventh Annual Conference from April 17-20. The ICN comprises 123 competition agencies from 108 jurisdictions.

The ICN confirmed the appointment of the new Chair of the Steering Group, Mr. Eduardo Pérez Motta, Chairman of Mexico’s Federal Competition Commission (CFC). He succeeds Dr. John Fingleton, Chief Executive of the United Kingdom’s Office of Fair Trading.

Mr. Pérez Motta acknowledged the need for continuity: “Becoming the Chair of the Steering Group of such a vibrant and successful organization entails the very significant responsibility of stewarding the organization, of fostering its growth and development, without tampering with what has been done well by so many people over the past decade.” Mr. Pérez Motta also set out three areas he plans to emphasize during his tenure -- i) fostering enhanced member engagement, ii) improving direct assistance to members, and iii) increasing the visibility of competition policy and principles in the domestic and international arena – noting that progress in these areas will help consolidate the ICN’s extraordinary growth.

Mr. Pérez Motta’s vision complements the superb work of Dr. Fingleton. Under Fingleton’s leadership the ICN articulated its Vision for its Second Decade, putting in place a long term vision and strategy for the ICN, and improved its working methods to broaden member and NGA engagement. At the conference Dr. Fingleton acknowledged the network’s continued success, noting that “the ICN’s second decade is on track with a clear focus on competition agencies working closely together to improve their effectiveness and bring greater benefits to their domestic consumers and their economies.”

At the conference, the ICN Steering Group introduced and members approved three new initiatives: on the investigative process in competition cases, international enforcement cooperation, and working with the courts. Member authorities and non-governmental participants also took stock of another fruitful year of joint work, which yielded accomplishments including:

- Important tools to facilitate cartel awareness and cross-border information sharing, such as a collection of good practices related to member awareness and outreach efforts and a comparative analysis of information sharing mechanisms;
- Practice manuals to improve advocacy work, including a market studies good practice handbook and a competition advocacy toolkit;

- Chapters for a workbook on the analysis of unilateral conduct, on the objectives of unilateral conduct laws and predatory pricing;
- A framework for cooperation in multijurisdictional mergers;
- A new chapter in the Agency Effectiveness Manual, on effective project delivery; and
- Four new interactive training modules for ICN's "virtual university" project, including a basic course on competitive effects, and modules on leniency programs, merger analysis, and predatory pricing.

The work done at the Eleventh Annual Conference allowed members to gain a deeper understanding of their common interests and differences, and thus reinforced participants' commitment to the network. The ICN is unique in that it depends solely on the voluntary output of members and non-governmental advisors to promote good practices in competition policy and enforcement in the areas of cartels, competition advocacy, competition agency effectiveness, mergers, and unilateral conduct.

The ICN's Twelfth Annual Conference will be held in Warsaw, Poland from April 23 to 26, 2013.

For more information, please visit the ICN website at www.internationalcompetitionnetwork.org.

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Note: The ICN's Vision for its Second Decade is available on the ICN website at www.internationalcompetitionnetwork.org/uploads/library/doc755.pdf