



Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy

13th Session, 8 to 10 July 2012, Geneva, Switzerland

Round Table on “Modalities and Procedures for international cooperation in competition cases involving more than one country”

**Wednesday 10 July 2013 (10:00 - 12:00)
Palais des Nations, Room XVIII (First Floor)**

In an increasingly global economy, a growing percentage of transactions have some form of international dimension. Consequently, increased cooperation among competition agencies is necessary for competition law enforcement to be effective and efficient in preventing or halting anticompetitive activities. Moreover, cooperation, like convergence, is an evolutionary process that involves understanding and trust. Assuring confidential treatment of case information is an important goal, but the inability to discuss or share such information with other competition agencies severely limits their ability to cooperate.

Cooperation efforts in dealing with cross-border anticompetitive practices have been developing over the years and significant changes have occurred in the last decades establishing the base for the introduction of different systems. Apart from the traditional bilateral, regional formal cooperation agreements, emergence of informal networks has been on the rise. However, exchange of confidential information still remains a challenge in many of the arrangements.

Current developments in international cooperation include a move towards a new generation agreements, which pushes cooperation in competition cases a step further. The recently concluded Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss confederation Swiss on cooperation on the application of their competition laws is an example.

The Roundtable will be structured around three set of issues;

- (i) Review of recent work jointly carried out by the OECD and ICN on international Cooperation
- (ii) Recent developments in bilateral Cooperation
- (iii) Recent initiatives taken by regional integration Groupings
- (iv) Best Practices in joint investigations on specific sectors

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WORK PROGRAMME

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|----------------------|--|
| 10:00 - 10:10 | Presentation by UNCTAD Secretariat |
| 10:10 - 10:25 | Part I:
Introductory session on the outcome of OECD/ICN joint study on international enforcement cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr John Davies, OECD/ICN working group on international enforcement cooperation |
| 10:25 - 10:55 | Part II:
Recent developments in bilateral cooperation: the case of 2012 EU and Swiss cooperation agreement on the application of their competition laws.

Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Rafael Corazza, Director, COMCO, Switzerland• Mr. Sam Pieters, Directorate-General for Competition, European Commission |
| 11:00 - 11:15 | Part III:
Emerging regional cooperation initiatives; Examples from SADC and Central American Competition Group.

Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gladmore Mamhare, SADC Secretariat• El Salvador |
| 11:15 - 11:30 | Part IV:
Best Practices in joint investigations on specific sectors: Cooperation in Oil Sector: Russia and Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nathalie Hardsdorf or Anatoly Golomolzin, Oil working group |
| 11:30 - 12:00 | Interactive Debate <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Panel presentations will be followed by an interactive debate including interventions by: WAEMU Secretariat
COMESA, CARICOM, ASEAN. |

Delegates wishing to take part in this roundtable are kindly invited to inform the Secretariat accordingly by contacting Ms. Elizabeth Gachuri (elizabeth.gachuri@unctad.org, Tel. +41229175775) or Jacqueline Bouvier (Jacqueline.bouvier@unctad.org)