12th Session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy Geneva, 9 to 11 July 2012

Round Table on Cross-Border Anti-Competitive Practices: The challenges for developing countries and economies in transition

Cross-border anticompetitive practices: the Brazilian experience and challenges

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Cross-border anticompetitive practices: the Brazilian experience and challenges

Geneva, July 2012





Cross-border anticompetitive practices: the Brazilian experience and challenges

I) Cross-border Cartels

II) Cross-border Mergers

III) International Enforcement and Cooperation



• UNCTAD:

 "Setting up leniency program and increasing enforcement efforts into domestic cartels in the 1st place".

Brazilian experience:

- Fight against Cartels
 - 2003: 1st search warrant
 - 2003-2006 (4 years): 30 search warrants
 - 2007-2010 (4 years): 343 search warrants
- Leniency Program
 - 2003-2006 (4 years): 7 leniency letters
 - 2007-2010 (4 years): 15 leniency letters
 - 2011-2012: several leniency letters are being negotiated

Prior challenges for developing countries (and new competition authorities)...



Challenge #1: Cartels go "Pro"

In 2003, evidences were 'evident'...





Challenge #1: Cartels go "Pro"

Even 'PowerPoint' presentations...

Visão. Missão e Valores

- Visão : construção de um setor equilibrado, com base no trabalho em GRUPO
- Missão : gerenciamento do mercado, com o aumento do Market Share do GRUPO, maximizando o resultado
- Valores : integridade, contiança, respeito e Harmonia

Metas do I Seminário

Evolução do preço médio : RN 12.50 - 30/06/00 RN 14.50 - 31/12/00 RN 16.00 - 30/06/01

Aumentar a participação do GRUPO - 68% - 75%;
Elaborar até 42.00 - Plano de Revisão de Cotas
Eliminar toda informalidade até - 2.00
Implantar o Sistema de Venda a Pessimo de Osisco até 0.05.00



Challenge #1: Cartels go "Pro"

- Sophisticated strategies
 - Informal meetings at the beach, private clubs, overseas...
- Difficulties to collect evidence





Challenge #2: territorial dimension

Joint Investigations with Parquet & Federal Police





- Competition enforcement is national, while business is global
- Refrigeration compressors
 - 2008/2009: leniency letter signed in several jurisdictions
 - Soft cooperation with DoJ and DG-Comp: information exchanges (i.e. names and addresses of investigated companies), common requests and cartel's *modus operandi*
 - Feb 2009: simultaneous dawn raid in Brazil, US and Europe
- Other cases
 - Lysine
 - Vitamins
 - Marine hoses

International cooperation, "surprise effect" and effectiveness to collect evidence



Cross-border mergers

- Law 12,529 from 2011:
 - Adoption of a pre merger control system
 - Pre vs. post merger control system
- Similar procedures and calendars
 - Exchange of information
 - Coordination of remedies
 - More efficient cooperation with foreign agencies
- Latam example (2011):





International enforcement and cooperation

Techniques to foster international enforcement and cooperation

- Leniency, public announcements, direct investigations
- Bilateral notifications
- "Clipping" of international mergers and cartels

Clipping - International Cartels					
Description	Jurisdiction	Companies	Source	Link	Date
Conduta anticompetitiva praticada pelas operadoras de cartão de crédito Visa e Mastercard.	Canadá	- Visa - Mastercard	- Global Competition Review	http://www.globa lcompetitionrevie w.com/news/artic le/31761/visa- mastercard-head- court-canada/	08.05.2012



Conclusion

- Brazilian experience
 - Domestic enforcement, then international enforcement
 - Significant cross-border anticompetitive practices enforcement experience
- Challenges
 - Day-to-day challenges: confidentiality issues, different timing and regimes.
 - Identifying the best type and instruments of cooperation
 - Fostering trust relationships

Conselho Administrativo de Defesa Econômica.

International cooperation as instrument to promote deterrence and effective enforcement



Thank you !

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