



UNCTAD XIII

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

DOHA - QATAR 21-26 APRIL 2012



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD

LUNCHTIME EVENT

COMPETITION AND CONSUMER POLICIES FOR DEVELOPMENT: AFRICOMP CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES AND SUPPORT TO THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

25 APRIL 2012, 12 NOON – 2 P.M.

BACKGROUND

The new Competition Programme for Africa (AFRICOMP) was officially launched in Geneva on 22 June 2009. AFRICOMP is an effective approach for meeting the increasing demand for assistance in the drafting and enforcement of competition and consumer laws and policies, and the increasing demand for support institution and capacity building, and advocacy in the fields of competition and consumer protection. It consists of both national and regional activities and emphasizes the building and use of national and regional expertise.

At national level:

- Support to beneficiary countries in developing legal and institutional frameworks for competition and consumer protection;
- Support to beneficiary countries in establishing or strengthening national competition and consumer protection institutions;
- Assistance to beneficiary countries towards building capacity, and developing the skill and expertise needed to effectively enforce competition and consumer protection law and policies;
- Assistance to beneficiary countries towards encouraging the development of competition and consumer protection oriented business and service delivery cultures.

At the regional level:

- Support to beneficiary countries in integrating regional competition and consumer protection frameworks into their national legal systems;
- Support for the establishment and operation of effective regional competition and consumer protection institutions;

Promotion of effective cooperation between national, regional and sub-region institutions responsible for competition and consumer policy implementation; and

- Identification of national and regional experts on competition and consumer protection and inclusion of these experts into AFRICOMP activities both to further develop and use their expertise.

The AFRICOMP program is open to Sub-Saharan African countries (subject to availability of funds).

As part of AFRICOMP, a capacity-building programme is implemented to support the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) Commission and its Member States in their endeavour to enforce their community competition rules effectively.

PURPOSE

The event will present the main components of the AFRICOMP and will showcase how the peer review of the community competition rules of the WAEMU in 2007 has triggered an innovative process of technical cooperation between UNCTAD and the WAEMU Commission.

OUTCOME

1. Sensitization of the UNCTAD–WAEMU capacity-building programme on competition policy as a unique experience of self-funding capacity building by Least Developed Countries (LDCs) belonging to a regional organization.
2. Sharing of experience and development of synergies on competition law and policy with other regional groupings over the world;
3. Facilitation of seeking financial support from potential development partners for the programme

ORGANIZATION

The lunch time event will be attended by (i) The Commissioner in charge of competition policy at the UEMOA/WAEMU Commission; (ii) The representative of the UEMOA/WAEMU Member States (iii) Development partners (France, European Union)

AGENDA

Introductory remarks (20 min)

Secretary General of UNCTAD.

The Commissioner in charge of competition policy at the UEMOA/WAEMU Commission

Panel Discussion (40 min)

Moderator: Guillermo Valles, Director of DITC/UNCTAD

“UNCTAD-WAEMU capacity building programme on competition policy as a unique experience”

Presentation by Hassan Qaqaya. Head of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch/UNCTAD

DOCUMENTS

- AFRICOMP annual report 2011
- UNCTAD–WAEMU capacity building programme on competition law and policy's flyer in French

For more information
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