CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy 19th Session, 7 - 9 July 2021, Geneva, Switzerland and online

Review of Capacity-building in and Technical Assistance on Competition Law and Policy

Thursday, 8 July 2021 (10:00 - 11:00)
Palais des Nations, Room XVIII (First Floor) and online (Interprefy)

UNCTAD provides capacity-building in and technical assistance on competition law and policy to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in accordance with requests received and available resources. These activities include national and regional projects related to drafting competition laws and implementing guidelines, as well as strengthening institutional capacities and advocacy for the creation of a competition culture.

UNCTAD secretariat note provides progress on the capacity-building and technical assistance activities in competition law and policy carried out in 2020 and 2021. During this period, UNCTAD activities were linked to the problems generated by the coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in both the health and economic fields. Numerous meetings were organized with remote participation to promote exchanges of views and experiences and of practices carried out by competition authorities to mitigate the consequences of the crisis and to protect consumer rights in different countries and regions.

It is foreseen that restrictions due to the pandemic will remain and the impacts on economy will continue to be felt in the near future. UNCTAD will therefore continue to provide technical assistance continuously and comprehensively in adjusted formats.

In this session, the delegates may wish to discuss the following questions:

- (a) What are the challenges faced by competition authorities in developing countries in the aftermath of COVID-19, in pursuing economic recovery from the crisis?
- (b) What kind of technical assistance activities are needed in that regard? What kind of role UNCTAD can play in supporting those competition authorities?

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WORK PROGRAMME

10:00 - 10:05 Presentation by the UNCTAD Secretariat

10:05 - 10:35 **Speakers**

- Judge Sanji Monageng, President, Competition and Consumer Tribunal, Botswana
- Prof. Dr. Patrick Krauskopf, ZHAW Zurich University
- Ms. Yolanda Martinez, President, National Commission for the Defense of Competition, Dominican Republic

10:35 - 11:00 Questions from the floor

Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Mr. Juan Luis Crucelegui (<u>juanluis.crucelegui@un.org</u>), Ms. Akari Yamamoto (<u>akari.yamamoto@un.org</u>) and Ms. Hyejong Kwon (<u>hyejong.kwon@un.org</u>).