CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Seventh United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices

Round Table on

"International cooperation in merger cases as a tool for effective enforcement of Competition law"

Wednesday 8 July 2015 (15.00PM) Room XVIII

International cooperation in the enforcement of competition laws has evolved over the years with the emergence of procedures and modalities guiding this process. While international cooperation among competition agencies has been on the rise in all areas of competition law enforcement, merger cases has been on the lead in this process. Cooperation arrangements, mechanisms and networks play an important role as a tool for effective enforcement of competition law in both developed and developing countries. However, there are specific enforcement challenges faced, particularly, by young competition agencies in their cooperation efforts.

The round table will discuss various forms of cooperation especially in merger cases, exchange experiences and best practice from different jurisdictions.

In order enhance international cooperation efforts between competition agencies, the following issues could be considered during the round table discussions:

- (b) Building human and technical capacities of young competition agencies to enforce competition law by:
 - (i) Developing tailor-made capacity-building programmes; establishment of regional training centers such as the ones in Mexico, Hungary and the Republic of Korea; and information-sharing networks such as the African Competition Forum, Sophia Competition Forum, Euro-Med and the activities of other regional integration groupings;
- (ii) Exchanging staff and/or detaching resident advisers to promote mutual understanding and trust;
- (c) Developing guidelines and best practices for cooperation agreements based on what works and what does not;
- (d) Ensuring the inclusion of provisions in national laws allowing for cooperation and exchange of information for enforcement purposes;
- (e) Establishing and implementing clear safeguards for due process and the protection of confidential information.

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WORK PROGRAMME

15:00 - 15:10 Presentation by UNCTAD secretariat

Keynote speech

15:10 - 15:30 Mr. Andreas Mundt

President, The Bundeskartellamt, Germany

Panel discussion

15:30 - 16:30

Panellists

(i) Mr. George Lipimile

Director & Chief Executive Officer, COMESA Competition Commission

(ii) Mr. Francis Kariuki

Director General, Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK)

(iii) Ms. Sin-yae Park

Deputy director, International Cooperation Division, Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC)

(iv) Justice Tomas Menchaca

President, Chile Competition Tribunal

16:30 - 18:00 Interactive debate

The panel discussion will be followed by interactive debate, including interventions by:

- Austria (tbc)
- Russia(tbc)
- EU(tbc)
- Zimbabwe

(List of participants to be completed).

Delegates wishing to take part in this roundtable are kindly invited to inform the Secretariat accordingly by contacting Mrs Elizabeth Gachuiri (<u>Elizabeth.gachuiri@unctad.org</u>, Tel: +41229175775) or Pedro Lagonegro (<u>Pedro.Lagonegro@unctad.org</u>, Tel:+41229175072)