# Technical Assistance Project Proposals for follow up to the Recommendations of the Voluntary Peer Reviews of Namibia and Seychelles

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Presentation by UNCTAD secretariat

Duration: 3 years

Starting Date: 2015

 Project Objective: To assist the authorities to enhance enforcement capacities and to develop competition cultures.

The project proposal is prepared on the basis of the recommendations of Peer Reviews in consultation with the authorities.

The overall goal is to create a well-functioning economic environment conducive to enterprise development, increased investment and improved consumer welfare.

#### **Project Objectives**

- •To improve the competition legislation by reviewing the current law and reinforcing it with additional regulations and guidelines;
- •To strengthen enforcement capacities in case handling, investigation and legal procedures, with a view to improving the quality of decisions;

#### Project Objectives (cont'd)

- •To raise awareness on the benefits of competition law and policy amongst all the stakeholders, including government institutions, the judiciary, the business community and consumers, thereby promoting voluntary compliance with the competition law and raising the profile of the authority;
- •To endow authorities with the necessary tools and mechanisms to enhance its coordination and cooperation with sector regulators or other agencies whose decisions and policies may have implications for competition in the markets.
- To facilitate contacts and networking between the competition agency and other competition authorities both in the region and throughout the world.

Outcome

• Enhanced effectiveness and efficiency of the enforcement of the competition law by the authority, improvement of fair business conduct and to better the functioning of the market economy

### Outcome Indicators

- (i) Number of competition cases handled successfully by the authority per year
- (ii) Increased level of awareness of competition law amongst stakeholders, possibly measured by surveys
- (iii) Increased role of competition policy in traditionally state controlled or regulated sectors and in economic policy making, measured by the increase in importance of competition matters in government matters and enacted laws.

Outcome

• Enhanced effectiveness and efficiency of the enforcement of the consumer protection law by FTC, improvement in consumer welfare and fair business practices and the creation of a sustainable and efficient market in Seychelles.

### Outcome Indicators

- (i) Number of consumer protection cases settled or adjudicated on
- (ii) Increased level of awareness of consumer protection law of governmental stakeholders and the business community in Seychelles, possibly measured by surveys
- (iii) Increased role of consumer protection policy in traditionally state or regulated sectors and in the general formulation of economic policies, measured by the increase in importance of consumer protection matters in government matters and enacted laws.

#### **Activities for Objective Fulfillment**

- Legal Framework
- Capacity Building
- Advocacy

### Technical Assistance Project Proposal for Namibia

#### **Project Activities**

#### 1. Legal Framework

- Review of the current competition law
- Revision of guidelines on restrictive business practices and mergers
- Development of guidelines for market studies and price monitoring

#### 2. Capacity-building

- Training on competition law and policy for NaCC staff and Board members.
- Training on investigative procedures, case handling and merger review for investigative officers and case handlers.
- Developing competition law and economics courses in the major universities in Namibia
- Development of a knowledge management system and experience sharing exercise with international competition agencies
- Development the Commission's resource centre

#### 3. Competition Advocacy

 Review of impact of advocacy and marketing done by NACC toward enhancing competition culture in Namibia

#### **Project Activities**

#### 1. Legal Framework

- Review of the current competition law
- Establishment of a consumer protection policy
- Preparation of regulations for granting of authorization, notification for guidance to examine agreements, leniency policy, trade descriptions and distance contracts
- Development of guidelines for plain language, legal & economic analysis for determination of cases and principles used for the determination of penalties or remedies
- Negotiation of memorandum of understanding with the Public Procurement Authority.

#### **Project Activities**

- 2. Capacity-building
- Training on competition and consumer law and policy for FTC staff and Board members.
- Training on investigative procedures, case handling and merger review for investigative officers and case handlers.
- Training for PPA to ensure detection of bid rigging
- 3. Competition Advocacy
- Organize an International Conference addressing, inter alia, the progress of the implementation of the Peer Review recommendations

#### The Way Forward

- Budgeting TAPP activities
- Institutional and Implementation Arrangements
- Engaging donors, CAs and stakeholders
- Scheduling the programme of events

#### **Institutional and Implementation Arrangements**

- Executing Agency: UNCTAD

  UNCTAD shall retain overall responsibility for the execution of the project in consultation with the competition authorities. All services shall be provided in accordance with United Nations procedures, rules and regulations.
- <u>National Project Coordinators:</u> NaCC and SFTC
  Competition authorities will provide policy guidelines and extend logistical support and assistance to UNCTAD during the implementation of the project.
- Project Management Committees will be composed of representatives from UNCTAD and the authority. The Committees will prepare and adopt a yearly work plan including specific activities. They will carry out mid-term reviews every six months and hold annual meetings with the participation of donors to monitor the implementation and the progress achieved as well as to revise the priorities, if needs be.

