INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON
COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY
5–7 July 2023, Geneva
Interaction between Competition and Industrial Policies

Thursday 6 July 2023
10:00-12:00, Room XIX
1. Introduction

• Competition and industrial policies
  • Both policies aim to achieve the same goal of economic growth and development, but their interaction may be complementary or in conflict with each other
  • “The relationship between competition and industrial policies in promoting economic development” (TD/B/C.1/CLP/3) – IGE on Competition Law and Policy in 2009

• Synergies and tensions
  • Interaction frameworks - advisory role; cooperation

• (Re)emerging debates on the interaction of the two policies
  • New policy demands emerge reflecting changes in the economy; digitalization, sustainable development and the global economic downturn
2. Growing needs for cooperation

• Digitalization
  • New regulations/competition law amendments to better capture competition concerns in digital economy, developed by the joint efforts of competition and industrial authorities (e.g., EU, Japan, Germany)

• Sustainability
  • Guidelines or legislative actions to clarify the consideration of sustainability in competition law and policy (e.g., EU, Japan, Austria, the Netherlands, China)

• COVID-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis
  • Governments’ subsidies and state aids to overcome the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis with advice from competition authorities (e.g., Mexico, Indonesia, South Africa, Austria, Brazil)
3. Conclusions

• Efforts of competition advocacy before and after the introduction of industrial policy measures
  • Strengthened cooperation with other government authorities; more systematic mechanisms of cooperation?

• Capacity enhancement of competition authorities
  • Prompt and effective response to global economic changes
  • Consistency and reliability of competition policy
4. Questions for discussion

• What is the role that competition authorities can play for Governments to better deal with recent economic changes, such as digitalization, sustainable development and the cost-of-living crisis?

• What are the challenges that competition authorities, particularly recently established ones, face in applying competition policies on industrial policies? What are the solutions to these challenges?

• How can the interaction frameworks and mechanisms between competition authorities and industrial policymakers be improved?
Thank you

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