Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy

22nd session
1. Poverty Reduction: a global Issue

- Poverty reduction is a global phenomenon with disparities between different parts of the world
- 9.2% of the world population, around 700 million people, live below the poverty line of $2.15 a day according to World Bank study
- Sub-Saharan Africa exhibits a large portion of extreme poverty; i.e., over half of the world population
- Entails a whole 1.9 billion living in impoverished conditions and sub-standard lives.
- Currently the world is grappling with social, political and economic crises prompted by Covid 19 pandemic and ensuing cost-of-living-crisis
- There is no better time to discuss poverty reduction and the role of competition policy than now given the prevailing global conditions
2. Poverty Reduction Parameters

- SDGs attainment is expected to be negatively affected by the current global events
- Introduction of UNDP Global multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)
- Income is key, but also health, education and standard of living; new additions
- MPI: 1.2 billion people from developing countries (111); Exhibited acute MPI in 2022.
- Recovery has been slow in many low-income countries in the global South
- Governments have policies that deal directly with poverty reduction
- However, the role of Competition policy in regulating markets is a key addition
- Direct impact to poverty reduction can be associated to competition regulation;
- When access to goods and services is made possible through enforcement
3. Role of Competition in Poverty reduction Discussions

- Panel discussions will explore the link between Competition policy and law and poverty reduction
- The panel will enlighten the discussions with;
  - Enforcement experiences,
  - Research findings
- And interventions from member States
Thank you!

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