



**Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy  
Eighteenth Session,  
Geneva, 10 to 12 July 2019**

**Report of Capacity building in Competition Law and Policy Thursday 11 July 2019 (17:00 - 18:00)  
Palais des Nations, Room XVII (First Floor)**

The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy at its Seventeen session requested the UNCTAD secretariat to present an updated review of capacity-building and technical assistance on consumer protection law and policy. The resulting UNCTAD secretariat note reports progress on the capacity-building and technical cooperation activities in competition and consumer protection law and policy carried out by UNCTAD in 2018 and part of 2019.

The activities carried out during the aforementioned period have consisted on providing technical assistance and capacity building to several countries from a national or regional perspective. In this sense, UNCTAD contributes with its knowledge and experience in the drafting and revision of laws (Peru, Argentina, Botswana, Tanzania), the training of experts of competition authorities (Tanzania, Latin America), the training of judges (Tanzania and Peru), the organization of meetings and *fora* between authorities of member States from a regional perspective (Latin America, Balkans, CEMAC, MENA), awareness-raising activities on the need of establishing and implementing effective policies to promote economic development (CEMAC) and the dissemination of new trends in these policies to the academia.

The activities developed by UNCTAD in these matters require an update due to the evolution of the markets, the digitalization of the economies and also the proliferation of regional trade agreements.

UNCTAD should assist beneficiary countries to adapt to these changes. In this sense, this round table has to reflect on the scope of the changes taking place and the challenges being faced so that the activities are designed and implemented with a practical and efficient approach.

Finally, it is important to highlight the urgent need for donor countries to collaborate with UNCTAD and help the countries most in need to adopt the necessary policies and tools to enter the new path of growth that the development of the digital economy implies.

Hence the following questions:

- (a) What are the challenges faced by developing and least developed countries in the new era of the digital economy?
- (b) What role donors and other development partners can play in supporting UNCTAD's work in this area?

**Round Table on Capacity building in Competition Law and Policy**

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**Room XVII (First Floor)**

**WORK PROGRAMME**

**17:00 to 17:10 - Presentation by the UNCTAD secretariat**

**17:10 to 11:50 - Panellists:**

- **Ms. Juliette Engoué, Director of Trade and Competition, CEMAC**
- **Mr. Ridha Ben Mahmoud, President, Tunisian Competition Council (tbc)**
- **Ms. Juliana Latifi, President, Albania Competition Authority**
- **Ms. Regina Vargas, Head of Advocacy, Competition Authority, El Salvador**

**17.50-18.00 - Questions from the floor**

Delegates wishing to take part in this roundtable are kindly invited to inform the Secretariat accordingly by contacting Mr. Juan Luis Crucelegui ([juanluis.crucelegui@unctad.org](mailto:juanluis.crucelegui@unctad.org), Tel. +4122 917 5043) or Jacqueline Bouvier ([Jacqueline.bouvier@unctad.org](mailto:Jacqueline.bouvier@unctad.org), Tel. +41229171878).