CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy 11th Session, 19 to 21 July 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

Round table on "The foundations of an effective competition agency" 1

including

Consultations on the revised chapters IX and X of the UNCTAD Model Law on Competition²

Tuesday, 19 July 2011 (12:00 - 13:00 and 15:00 - 16:30) Room XII (third floor)

The design of competition regimes should respond to the specific economic, political and social context in a given country. Therefore, competition regimes and the institutional set-up of their enforcement bodies differ from country to country. However, it is possible to identify features that characterize efficient public regulatory bodies. Among these are independence; transparency; accountability; assuring due process; being well funded in proportion to the mandate; being staffed by well-educated, well-trained and non-corrupt persons; and having an appellate process that is well structured and non-corrupt. More recent discussion about competition agencies indicates that an evaluation of their work is necessary too. Among the internal processes, defining objectives and priorities, appropriately allocating resources, and taking effective decisions are necessary for an effective competition agency.

Within the discussion on agency effectiveness, the revised the chapters IX and X of the UNCTAD Model Law on Competition provide an overview of how different competition law regimes set up "The Administering Authority and its organization" and how they define "Functions and powers of the Administering Authority." This comparative assessment is the basis for the formulation of core principles aimed at guiding developing countries when designing their competition regimes.

The round table will discuss the features of effective competition agencies and how to realise them in practice. In addition, the revised Chapters IX and X of the Model Law on Competition will be presented. Special attention will be paid to the challenges faced by young competition authorities in developing countries that might be called "barefoot competition offices" – those without significant political or financial support.

¹ UNCTAD (2011), The foundations of an effective competition agency, Note by UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/C.I/CLP/8).

² Model Law on Competition (2010) – Revised chapter IX (TD/B/C.I/CLP/L.2), Model Law on Competition (2010) – Revised chapter X (TD/B/C.I/CLP/L.3).

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WORK PROGRAMME

12:00 to 12:10 12:10 to 12:30	Introductory presentation by UNCTAD secretariat Presentation of the revised chapters IX and X of the UNCTAD
	Model Law on Competition by the UNCTAD secretariat
12:30 to 13:00	Interactive debate (Part I)
15:00 to 15:20	Keynote speech
	 Mr. John Fingleton, UK Office of Fair Trading
15:20 to 16:00	Panel discussion
	• Mr. Khalid Mirza , former Chairman of the Pakistan Competition Commission
	Mr. Bill Kovacic, US Federal Trade Commission
	• Mr. Fernando Furlan, CADE (Brazil)
	 Mr. Dionisio de la Cruz, Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio (Colombia)
16:00 to 16:30	Interactive debate (Part II)

Delegates wishing to speak during the session are invited to inform the UNCTAD secretariat accordingly by contacting Guillaume de Uffredi (guillaume.deuffrede@unctad.org).