



**Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy
Fifteenth Session,
Geneva, 19 to 21 October 2016**

**Round Table on
"Strengthening private sector capacities for competition compliance"**

**Friday 21 October 2016 (10:00 - 11:30)
Room (XVIII)**

Compliance with competition law facilitates the building of competitive markets, spurs innovation and economic activity and allows for more choice to consumers. Compliance also has benefits for businesses in terms of creating a level playing field, avoiding fines and penalties, preventing adverse publicity and promoting voluntary compliance to the law.

Lack of a compliance programme can unfortunately present challenges to some businesses due to capacity constraints to develop strategies that enable them to minimize the risks of involvement in competition law infringements and the consequences thereof. Likewise, some regulatory authorities also face capacity challenges in the enforcement of compliance regulations thus having a knock on effect of weakening private sector compliance with the law.

The objective of the roundtable is to explore ways in which capacities in the private sector and in regulatory authorities can be strengthened to enhance competition compliance.

To facilitate discussions during the round table, the secretariat background report reviews the drivers of compliance and non-compliance, and common tools that are used by competition authorities and the private sector to promote compliance with competition law. Based on the analysis of these drivers and tools, the report looks at the some ways in which capacities in both the private sector and in regulatory authorities can be strengthened to improve competition compliance. We wish to further explore strategies employed to strengthen capacities in the private sector and in regulatory authorities. In this regard, member states may wish to participate and discuss the following topics:

1. What strategies could be recommended in addition to those highlighted in the Secretariat background paper for strengthening private sector capacities for compliance with laws affecting competition?
2. Given that severe shortages of suitably skilled personnel in public and private sectors hampers compliance activities, what practical measures can be adopted to strengthen capacity in businesses and regulatory authorities with limited resources?
3. What should priorities be in compliance matters for competition authorities given the limited resources at their disposal and the costs associated with compliance activities, in terms of both human and financial resources?
4. What activities are undertaken by competition authorities to improve private sector compliance with competition laws? What factors contribute to the success of such activities and the causes of failure?
5. What suggestions you would like to make to the competition authority of your country that would facilitate building capacity for competition compliance in small businesses?

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WORK PROGRAMME

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|---------------|--|
| 10:00 - 10:10 | Presentation by UNCTAD secretariat
Moderator: Mr. Esteban Greco, Argentina |
| 10:10 - 10:25 | Keynote speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. David Anderson, Partner, Berwin Leighton Paisner, Belgium |
| 10:25 - 11:05 | Panel discussion
Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Francis Kariuki, Director General, Competition Authority of Kenya• Mr. Sadaaki Suwazono, Director of International Affairs, Fair Trade Commission, Japan• Ms. Alessandra Tonazzi, Director of International Affairs & Ag. Director of European Affairs, Italian Competition Authority (Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato) |
| 11:05 - 11:30 | Interactive debate (Part II)
The panel discussion will be followed by interactive debate, including interventions by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Ernst Ferdinandusse, Principal Administrator, European Commission DG Comp, International Relations, Brussels• Mr. Chilufya Sampa, Director General, Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, Zambia |

Delegates wishing to take part in this roundtable are kindly invited to inform the Secretariat accordingly by contacting Ms. Elizabeth Gachuri (elizabeth.gachuri@unctad.org, Tel. +4122 917 5775); Rachid Amui (rachid.amui@unctad.org, Tel +4122 917 5786); or Jacqueline Bouvier (Jacqueline.bouvier@unctad.org).