



## What Role for Competition Policies in Regional Integration? The Cases of Africa and Latin America

Wednesday 20 July, 13.00h - 14.30h

Loita Room

Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi

### DESCRIPTION

Regional and international trade is very much affected by business practices and market regulation at the national level; and by integration frameworks at the regional level. Competition has increased with the advent of new technologies and the Internet, but it cannot contribute sufficiently to sustainable and inclusive economic growth and benefit consumers without effective control of anticompetitive practices.

National agencies, by themselves, cannot cope with this revolution in markets without establishing cooperation instruments that allow them to work together against cross-border anticompetitive practices and to share best experiences in the application of law and policies which foster competition.

Regional and international cooperation between agencies is a fundamental requirement for competition policy to adapt to the progress of trade.

This working lunch will give us the opportunity to analyze the experiences of regional cooperation that have been carried out in various parts of the world to facilitate contact, exchange of information and experience between national agencies of certain regions (Latin America, ACF, COMESA, SADC, ASEAN, etc.), and the benefits obtained.

### KEY ISSUES

This roundtable discussion will address the following questions:

- Overall impact of Competition Policies in regional integration in the developing world. What has worked so far in the different regional groupings represented and how regional competition regimes have assisted to attain regional integration objectives? In the case of Africa, to what extent existing regional competition regimes can boost African Union initiative to create a continental free trade area?
- Challenges faced and the way forward. What can be done to further achieve regional integration in the regional groupings represented? What type of institutional, legal and administrative arrangements needs to be put in place for this to happen?

## PARTICIPANTS

### Moderator

Mr. Guillermo Valles, Director DITC, UNCTAD.

### Speakers

- Mr. G. Lipimile, Executive Director of Competition of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Ms Paulina Elago Executive Secretary, Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU)
- Mr. Hardin Rathisusu Deputy Commissioner- Competition Commission, South Africa
- Mr. Herbert Tassano, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Intellectual Property of Peru (INDECOPI)
- Mr. Sadaaki Suwazono. Director of the International Division of the Japanese Federal Trade Commission (JFTC)

## CONTACTS

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