

International Competition Network Sixth Annual Conference took place in Moscow

June 6, 2007

Japan Fair Trade Commission

The International Competition Network (“ICN”) Sixth Annual Conference took place from May 29 to June 1 in Moscow, Russia. Chairman Takeshima, Deputy Secretary General (International Affairs) Nakajima, Director General (Criminal Investigation Department) Hosoda and other staff members participated in this conference from the Japan Fair Trade Commission (“JFTC”).

Nearly 450 people including representatives of competition authorities and attorneys at law who specialize in competition laws attended this conference. Chairman Takeshima held talks with representatives of other competition authorities concerning recent competition policy.

1. Overview of the ICN

The ICN is an international network which was established in October 2001 and now consists of 100 competition authorities from 88 jurisdictions. The purpose of this network is to enhance convergence in competition laws and policies through a dialogue among member competition authorities. In addition to such authorities, competition experts from international organizations and legal, business, consumer, and academic communities (referred to as Non-Governmental Advisors, “NGA”) also take part in the ICN’s activities.

The ICN has held an annual conference since 2002 (Naples (Italy) in September 2002, Merida (Mexico) in June 2003, Seoul (Korea) in April 2004, Bonn (Germany) in June 2005, Cape Town (South Africa) in May 2006, and Moscow (Russia) in 2007).

From Japan, in addition to Chairman Takeshima and other JFTC staff members, three NGAs participated in the Sixth Annual Conference.

2. Contents of the Conference

In this conference, achievements through active discussions in each of the Working Groups since the Fifth annual conference were reported. For example, in the Cartel Working Group, in-depth review of cartel investigation techniques was

conducted with a focus on issues concerning cartel-case initiation, case selection, interaction of public and private enforcement, and inter-agency cooperation. The Merger Working Group published a report named “Defining Merger Transactions for Purpose of Merger Review”. The Competition Policy Implementation Working Group discussed on the effective and efficient technical assistance activities, and the JFTC proposed a mechanism for coordination on technical assistance activities. And the Unilateral Conduct Working Group published a report on objectives of unilateral conduct regulations, assessment of dominance/substantial market power, and state-created monopolies.

3. Upcoming Annual Conference

The JFTC will host the Seventh Annual Conference at the Kyoto International Conference Center (City of Kyoto) from April 14 to 16, 2008.

4. Conference Materials

Conference Materials of the Sixth Annual Conference is available at the website; <http://www.icn-moscow.org>