



## International Conference on Competition & Development - *How Can Competition Policy Promote Inclusive Growth?*

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**Date:** Monday, March 19, 2018

**Venue:** Multipurpose Hall, India International Centre, New Delhi

**Time:** 14:00 – 22:00 hours

### BACKGROUND

‘Development’, in general, can be visualised as a phenomenon of promoting growth which is sustainable as well as inclusive. This entails “increasing the size of the cake” (growth) and simultaneously ensuring that everyone is given a fair opportunity to contribute to the increase and also reap its benefits in an equitable manner. Unfortunately, most economies in the world have had, for some time now, “growth” as the prime policy goal, leaving essential aspects such as ‘equity’ and ‘inclusiveness’ largely to the “trickle down” phenomenon. In general, this approach might have resulted in better growth indicators, but unfortunately led to increasing inequality, both in terms of opportunity and benefits, especially in the developing world.

At this crucial juncture, effective reconciliation between development and inclusive growth is required, which would understandably necessitate a robust public policy response. This can be worked upon in at least two ways: first, by inducing ‘redistribution’ through active policy interventions so that development benefits are distributed among larger public effectively. The second way would be to look at development from the lens of “equality of opportunity” and “fair access”. This would perhaps catch the essence of “inclusiveness” and would increase the base of contributors of growth i.e. more and more people would work to increase the size of the cake, consequently decreasing the base of the people dependent on ‘redistribution’. It seems that the latter is where competition policy/ law can play a more active role by facilitating well-functioning markets for all economic participants.

The initial inclination of the contemporary discussions suggests, at least, using: (1) competition policy reform as *ex ante* tool to provide and promote “equality of opportunity” and (2) effective competition law enforcement to tackle market failures and adopting creation and maintenance of ‘robust markets’ as the goal rather than economic efficiency.

One pertinent question that needs to be deliberated is what else could be done with the competition policy/law tools to promote inclusive growth?

## AGENDA

- 14:00– 14:30**                      **Registration**
- 14:30 – 16:00**                      **Opening Session: Political economy aspects of competition & development**
- What competition (if any) is good for development? Does competition breed greater inequality? Should developing countries combine consumer-based competition law principles with social and development objectives? If so, how to do it? Is international convergence in competition law an obsolete concept?
- Welcome Address**                      **Pradeep S Mehta**, Secretary General, CUTS International
- Chair**                                      **Frederic Jenny**, Chairman, OECD Competition Committee
- Keynote Address**                      **Montek Singh Ahluwalia**, Former Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of India
- Discussants**                              **DK Sikri**, Chairman, Competition Commission of India
- Teresa Moreira**, Head, Competition Policy and Consumer Protection, UNCTAD
- Eleanor Fox**, Professor, New York University School of Law
- 16:00 – 16:10**                      **Book Release (ICRR 2017) by Pradeep S Mehta**
- 16:10 – 16:30**                      **Tea Break**
- 16:30 – 19:00**                      **Roundtables: How can competition policy & law promote inclusive growth?**
- What are the ways in which competition law/policy can promote inclusive growth? Should there be a paradigm shift in competition enforcement? If yes, what are the contours of the new paradigm? Are there different approaches for countries at different levels of development?
- 16:30–17:45**                      ***1st Roundtable: Ensuring equity through competition reforms***
- Chair:**                                      **Tembinkosi Bonakele**, Commissioner, Competition Commission of South Africa
- Speakers:**                              **Pierre Jacquet**, President, Global Development Network, New Delhi, India
- Allan Fels**, Former Chairman, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

**Dhanendra Kumar**, Former Chairman,  
Competition Commission of India

**Vicente Bagnoli**, Professor of Law, Mackenzie  
University, Brazil

**Sumit Majumdar**, Professor of Technology  
Strategy, University of Texas, USA

*Floor Discussion*

**17:45–19:00** *2nd Roundtable: Reforming competition  
enforcement for development*

**Chair:** **Arvind Mayaram**, Chairman, CUTS Institute  
for Regulation and Competition, India

**Speakers:** **Francis Wang'ombe Kariuki**, Director  
General, Competition Authority of Kenya

**Geeta Gouri**, Former Member, Competition  
Commission of India

**Amadou Ceesay**, Executive Secretary,  
Gambia Competition and Consumer Protection  
Committee

**Payal Malik**, Advisor (Economics) and Head,  
Economic Division, Competition Commission  
of India

**Ioannis Lianos**, Chair, Global Competition Law  
& Public Policy, University College London, UK

**Ramji Srinivasan**, Senior Advocate, Supreme  
Court of India

*Floor Discussion*

**19:00 – 19:15** **Tea Break**

**19:15 – 20:15** **Dinner Speech: The digital economy and the innovation  
opportunity: paving the way forward for emerging economies**

**Chair** **Allan Fels**, Former Chairman, Australian Competition and  
Consumer Commission

**Speaker** **Frederic Jenny**, Chairman, OECD Competition Committee

**20:15 – 22:00** **Dinner**

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