



From the Desk of

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To whomsoever it may concern

This is to acknowledge the significant contribution of CUTS in fostering a competition culture in Kenya through its advocacy, training and networking activities. In this area they have worked with the Monopolies & Prices Commission, Kenya in various ways and assisted the Commission and its staff by providing competition-related literature regularly to the Commission, which has helped its staff in building their capacity.

Specifically CUTS has been providing good exposure through lectures by competition experts from around the world. At our request, during 2002-2004 CUTS has organized trainings for the Commission staff on investigative techniques, mergers and acquisitions and dealing with anti-competitive practices.

Besides the Commission, CUTS has been working with several NGOs in the region to promote the cause of healthy competition. For instance, in association with the Consumer Information Network of Kenya, CUTS has published a reader-friendly booklet: Competition and Consumer Protection in Kenya. All these activities have helped augment the capacity of various stakeholders, thus helping the Commission to promote competition in the Kenyan markets effectively.

In the year 2000-2002, CUTS implemented a multi-country study on competition regimes in seven developing countries (popularly known as 7Up), which included Kenya. This study's report: "Pulling Up Our Socks" has helped policy makers in Kenya to realize the need for improving the existing competition law: The Restrictive Trade Practices, Monopolies and Price Control Act. Towards this end the Government of Kenya has established a committee to examine the need for amending the law and to make appropriate recommendations. We will be taking the assistance of CUTS in this exercise, as they are well endowed with experience in drafting and implementation of competition laws in the developing world.

Furthermore, CUTS has recently launched the 7Up3 project, which is exclusively focused in Africa: Botswana, Uganda, Namibia, Mauritius, Ethiopia, Malawi and Mozambique. In this project, CUTS has also involved the Commission in sharing its knowledge and experience to assist these countries.

CUTS is a unique civil society organization with the maturity of an institution which can cover both research and advocacy aspects of most economic policy issues in the developing world, bringing in 'appropriate technology' for easier adoption in developing countries.

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We wish that there are more such organisations in the developing world. CUTS has begun this process by establishing centres in Nairobi, Kenya and Lusaka, Zambia. This augurs well for South-South cooperation, particularly between India and African nations.

DR. P.M. Njoroge
Commissioner
MONOPOLIES AND PRICES COMMISSION

CC:
UNCTAD