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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

**29-Aug-2011**

**English - Or. English**

**DIRECTORATE FOR FINANCIAL AND ENTERPRISE AFFAIRS  
COMPETITION COMMITTEE**

DAF/COMP/GF(2011)9  
Unclassified

## **Global Forum on Competition**

**-- Letter of Invitation to Non-Members --**

**16-17 February 2011**

*This letter of invitation sent to non-members regarding the 2012 Global Forum on Competition is circulated to delegates FOR INFORMATION.*

Ms. H el ene Chadzynska, GFC Programme Manager,  
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English - Or. English



DIRECTORATE FOR FINANCIAL AND ENTERPRISE AFFAIRS  
Competition Committee

COMP/2011.85

22 July 2011

**OECD GLOBAL FORUM ON COMPETITION**

**Paris, 16-17 February 2012**

**Re: Invitation and Request for Contributions**

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

On behalf of the OECD, I am writing to invite you to attend the eleventh meeting of our Global Forum on Competition to be held in Paris on Thursday 16 and Friday 17 February 2012. The Forum brings together high-level competition officials from around the world. Close to ninety Competition Authorities from Asia, Africa, Europe, Australasia and the Americas currently participate, alongside representatives from international and regional organisations as well as selected representatives from business and civil society.

The GFC provides an opportunity for policy dialogue between OECD member countries and non-members. The agenda for next year's meeting takes into account the views expressed by participants at the last Forum meeting as well as responses to the evaluation questionnaire.

The agenda will be organised around the following main topics: i) *The Commodities Sector: Price Volatility and the Role of Competition Authorities* and ii) *Improving International Co-operation in Cartel Investigations*. Breakout sessions will focus on national experiences and case studies involving commodity prices and competition authorities. A more detailed agenda will be circulated in the autumn.

**Written contributions**

**Commodities and Price Volatility:** This full day session will include: (i) an overview of the causes and impacts of price volatility, including recent OECD work in various policy areas; and (ii) the role of competition authorities in responding to price volatility, which will be further explored in breakout sessions. The plenary will be organised around a series of presentations from a panel of experts and country representatives, as well as drawing on country experiences as detailed in the country contributions.

**Improving International Co-operation in Cartel Investigations:** This session will consider developments and challenges in cartel enforcement resulting from the increasing number of cases investigated by multiple authorities. In particular, this roundtable will focus on the effectiveness of existing cooperation tools, best practices and agreements. A panel of speakers and agency representatives will complement the issues raised in the country contributions.



For both sessions, a call for contributions will be sent to you by early October. This will provide you with some background information on the subject and a number of suggested questions to guide your submissions. To assist the Secretariat with the detailed planning of the sessions, we would be grateful if you could confirm **by 9 November 2011** whether you will be preparing a written contribution for the two sessions. The deadline for the written contributions (in electronic version, 5 pages maximum in English or French) is **9 December 2011**. Your written contributions will help to focus the discussions on key issues of concern and is a means of sharing your experiences and views with the participants at the meeting and others via OECD publications. The Secretariat will prepare background notes on both topics which will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

**Breakout Session on Commodities and Price Volatility:** We would welcome case studies and country experiences for the commodities session described above, which could form the basis for discussions in the breakout sessions. Please send a brief description to the Secretariat **by 17 November 2011**.

Ms. Helene Chadzynska is the Programme Manager for the Forum. Her contact details are telephone number: +33 1 45 24 91 05; fax number: +33 1 45 24 96 95, and e-mail address: [helene.chadzynska@oecd.org](mailto:helene.chadzynska@oecd.org). Please do not hesitate to contact her if you have any substantive questions regarding the Forum.

Please send your advance notice of contributions and your examples of experiences for breakout sessions on Commodities to Ms. Erica Agostinho (Assistant, Competition Division) at the following email address: [erica.agostinho@oecd.org](mailto:erica.agostinho@oecd.org) (with a copy to [helene.chadzynska@oecd.org](mailto:helene.chadzynska@oecd.org)).

Administrative details and practical information are provided in Annex I as well as on our Forum website [www.oecd.org/competition/globalforum](http://www.oecd.org/competition/globalforum). The completed participation form (Annex II) should be sent to Erica no later than **9 December 2011**. She will also reply to any questions relating to documentation and visas at the above email address or tel. +33 1 45 24 89 73.

Thank you very much in advance for your kind co-operation. We look forward to seeing you at the Global Forum meeting next February.

Yours sincerely,

Head of Competition Outreach



## ANNEX I

### **ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

We would greatly appreciate receiving **by 9 December 2011** an early indication of whether you will attend as well as your contact information (please complete and return the participation form in *Annex II*). Please note that no financial support will be available for your travel to and stay in Paris. We strongly encourage participants lacking the necessary financial resources to seek sources of funding upon receipt of this invitation letter.

The OECD's website (<http://www.oecd.org/competition/globalforum>) will be our vehicle for conveying general information and Forum documentation. As with previous GFCs, contributions received may be distributed through subsequent OECD publications. Accordingly, by submitting your contribution(s), you will be considered to have agreed to grant the OECD the royalty free publication rights to reproduce your contribution(s) in whatever form and languages it may, in its sole discretion, deem appropriate, and you also will be considered to have agreed to grant OECD the right to make editorial modifications and/or to shorten the paper without indeed changing its purpose or sense.

### **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

#### Registration

Participation at the Forum is by invitation only. It is restricted to government representatives and selected invitees. When you arrive at the OECD Centre, you will need to present an identity card to obtain your Forum badge. Badges will be delivered at the Welcome Desk upon arrival. The GFC will start at 9 am sharp on Thursday 16 February 2012. The desk will open at 8.00 am. Given the high number of participants, you should allow a minimum of 30 to 45 minutes for this process. We strongly encourage you to arrive no later than half an hour before the start of the meeting. Late arrivals in the meeting room will not be allowed during the speech of the OECD Secretary General which will begin at 9am sharp on Thursday 16 February.

#### Seating arrangements

Participants will be seated by country/economy in French alphabetical order, followed by international organisations and selected representatives from business and civil society. Given the large number of countries represented at the Forum, access to seats equipped with a microphone is limited. Each country or organisation will have a minimum of one seat with a microphone. For countries with large delegations, the allocation of more seats equipped with a microphone will be considered. A number of seats without a microphone will also be available at the back of the room.

For the discussion on "Commodities", three breakout sessions are organised in addition to the plenary session to allow a more informal dialogue among participants. Participants are kindly invited to observe the timing and return to the plenary session immediately after the breakout sessions.

#### Documentation

All documentation for the Global Forum on Competition will be available on its website at: <http://www.oecd.org/competition/globalforum>. Unless explicitly requested not to do so, we intend to reproduce written contributions on the site. In a bid to be environmentally friendly, we will not circulate country contributions in the meeting room where the Forum will take place. Please bring your own copies with you. Please note that the numerous country contributions will not be circulated in paper copy at the meeting. Participants will be able to access them on their personal computers through the OECD's WiFi access in the room. GFC participants will find the GFC background documentation and the agenda on their table upon their arrival in the meeting room.



### Working Methods

Discussions will be held in the two OECD official languages (English and French), with simultaneous interpretation. The Chairman (and session Chairs where relevant) will use traffic lights to regulate the timing of interventions. The high number of participants means that participants will need to be disciplined in their interventions in order to allow as many delegates as possible to have the opportunity to speak. Interventions should be as concise as possible, and each intervention will be limited to a maximum of three minutes. Time constraints will not permit the presentation of written contributions. Countries who have contributed in writing will be notified in advance if session chairs intend to call upon them to make brief comments on specific points from their written contributions. Likewise, not all countries who have made written contributions will be invited to comment. We will do our best to warn those concerned as soon as feasible, but the late receipt of some country contributions often delays this process. Consequently, countries may not be notified until a few days before, on the eve or on the first day of the Forum. Please carefully check your emails on those days since this will be the only way to communicate efficiently with you in this regard. The Secretariat will inform the scheduled speakers of the time allocated to them. They are kindly invited to keep their presentations strictly within the indicated limits.

### Press

Journalists may be present in the GFC Plenary Room during the Opening Session. They will be allowed to stay for the remaining part of the morning. They will be asked to observe Chatham House rules, i.e. they will not quote the names of the country or speaker.

### Accommodation, Visas, About the Conference Centre

The [list of hotels](#) is provided on the OECD website for convenience. This is neither an OECD recommendation nor a guarantee of quality.

European Union citizens do not require a visa for entry into France. For others, depending on your nationality, the length and purpose of your stay in France, a visa may be required before departure. For further information, please consult the [French Foreign Affairs Ministry website](#). Note that the OECD cannot organise a visa on your behalf and that there are long deadlines to get visas in some countries. A personalised invitation letter can be provided by the OECD for the purpose of getting a visa if necessary.

The OECD Conference Centre provides all necessary facilities including phone booths, Wi-Fi access, and computers with Internet connexion with free access, shops, coffee bars, snack bar and Delegates' restaurant.

### Practical information

Currency	Euro (€, EUR)
Electricity	220 V, 50 Hz
Time Zone	GMT/UTC + 1 (Central European Time)
Telephone Area Code	The international code to call France is "+ 33". When calling from abroad, the number should be dialled without the first "0". When calling from France, Paris numbers always start with "01" and French cell phone numbers always start with "06".



**ANNEX II**

**PARTICIPATION FORM**

**Global Forum on Competition**  
(16-17 February 2012)

Please complete the form below and forward it before **9 December 2011** to:

Erica AGOSTINHO: [erica.agostinho@oecd.org](mailto:erica.agostinho@oecd.org)  
 Assistant  
 Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs  
 Competition Division  
 Fax: (33 1) 45 24 96 95  
 Phone: (33-1) 45 24 89 73

TITLE	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> / Ms <input type="checkbox"/>
SURNAME	
FIRST NAME	
JOB TITLE / FUNCTION	
ORGANISATION	
ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE	
FAX	
E-MAIL	
VISA INFORMATION	<p><i>Please note that the OECD cannot organise a visa on your behalf nor provide you with insurance. However, a personalised invitation letter can be provided for the purpose of getting a visa if necessary. Due to long deadlines to get visas in some countries, please indicate below if you need such letter as soon as possible:</i></p> <p>Yes (*) <input type="checkbox"/>                  No (*) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(*) Please tick the appropriate box.</p>