

International Competition Policy and Law Conference opens

The sixth Asian and Oceanic Antimonopoly Conference opens at Old Parliament House, Canberra today with a focus on international competition policy and law and cooperation between agencies.

"This event attracts a wide range of high ranking officials from competition agencies throughout the Asian and Oceanic region," ACCC Chairman, Professor Allan Fels, said today. "It is an important forum for continuing discussion on domestic and international competition policy and law.

"It fosters greater harmony, cooperation and networking between competition agencies and regulators".

The two-day conference will include updates from each participant country about the development of their competition policy and law, as well as specific sessions on the enforcement of competition law.

"This year's conference will involve 50 delegates from 20 countries, including Australia, Cambodia, Chinese Taipei, China, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as a representative of the World Bank in the United States.

"The fact that developing countries such as Laos and Cambodia are represented equally with Asian heavyweights, such as China and Japan, indicates the excellent networking opportunity provided by this forum.

"We hope to progress the work of the forum further in the future so that competition policy and law is promoted and enhanced significantly in our region".

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is acting as the conference host. AusAID assisted the conference with funding for some participants' travel.

Further information

Professor Allan Fels, Chairman, pager (016) 373 536
Ms Lin Enright, Director, Public Relations, (02) 6243 1108

MR 222/99
15 November 1999