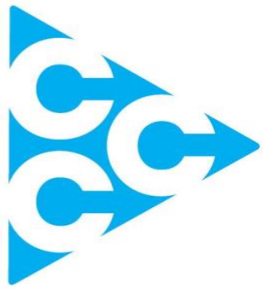


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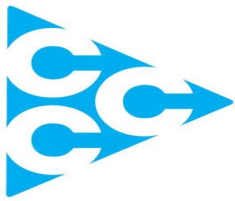


**REGULATION OF COMPETITION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL INTEGRATION AGREEMENTS –
*Mechanisms for Competition Enhancement in CARICOM***

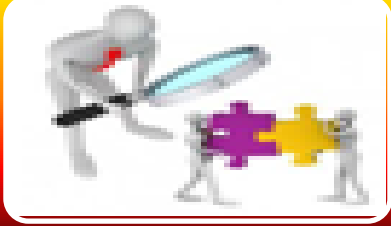
**Fifth Annual meeting of the Working Group on Trade and
Competition in Latin America and the Caribbean
SELA**

**Presentation delivered by:
CHAIRMAN DR. KUSHA HARAISINGH
CARICOM Competition Commission
2-4 December, 2015
www.caricomcompetitioncommission.com**





KEY QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION



Which is the best way to ensure the benefits of competition in regional trade agreements?



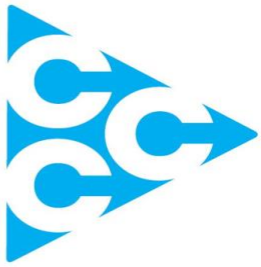
How has competition helped regional integration?



What experiences have been the most successful ones?



Which areas require attention?



COMMUNITY COMPETITION POLICY



GOAL

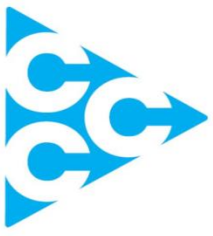
- Article 169 of the Revised Treaty
- Ensure that the benefits expected from the implementation of the CSME are not frustrated by anticompetitive business conduct

OBJECTIVES

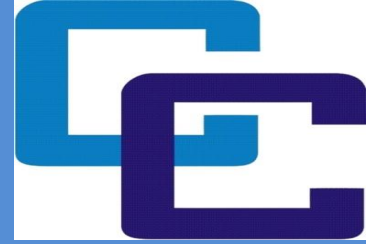
- Promotion and maintenance of competition
- Prohibition of anticompetitive business conduct
- Promotion of consumer welfare and protection of consumers

SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY

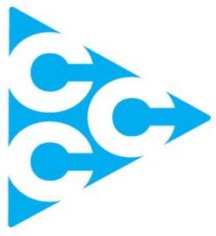
- Article 170 of the Revised Treaty
- CARICOM Competition Commission
- National Competition Authorities



SUSTAINING THE BENEFITS OF COMPETITION IN REGIONAL INTEGRATION AGREEMENTS



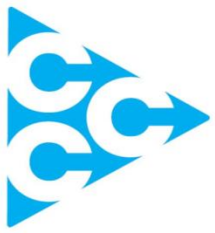
- Build a strong culture of competition through advocacy
- **Develop effective frameworks for the enforcement of national and community competition law**
- Competition Authorities have to be pro-active in signalling areas of concern with new/amended laws
- **Provide necessary resources needed by NCAs/Community Authorities in a sustained manner**
- Review and amend treaty/laws as needed to ensure best practice systems for competition enforcement



POSITIVE IMPACTS OF COMPETITION ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION



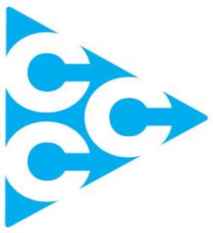
- Signals to incumbent players and new entrants that anti-competitive business practices will be penalised
- Encouraged increased investment in regional markets with the expansion of existing players and the entry of new competitors
- National Economies and consumers have benefitted from increased competition in key sectors through lower prices, higher quality products/services, new technology
- Harmonised regional approach to business facilitation, regulation, and legal framework by regulators



SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES FROM REGULATION OF COMPETITION IN REGIONAL AGREEMENTS



- Harmonised regional approach to the design of community and national competition frameworks
- Collaboration and sharing of expertise among the more established NCAs/CCC with the newer NCAs leading to better regulatory outcomes and practices
- Seeking consensus on modification at the regional level to amendments to Community law or incorporation of new elements of competition law and practice
- Establishment of relationships with sector regulators in the member states

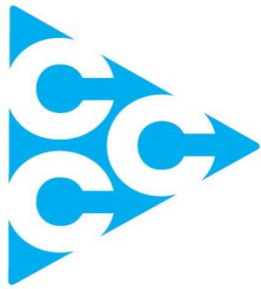


AREAS THAT REQUIRE FURTHER ATTENTION



- Exclusions of specific sectors from competition law in some Member States
- Issues of competition “neutrality” in the application of community and national sectoral policy
- Identification of cartels in national/regional economy
- Advocacy for greater involvement of CCC/NCAAs to review and suggest amendments to laws or practices that are not pro-competitive
- Quantifying economic impact of competition

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