

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS IN NATIONAL COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY IN SINGAPORE

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#### **Latest Milestones**

□ Celebrated CCS's 10 years anniversary in 2015





## **Changes within CCS**

- New Board appointments
- New Directors for Legal and Enforcement Divisions
- □ Creation of new Director-level specialist positions
  - Senior Principal Economist ("SPE"), and
  - Senior Principal Legal Counsel ("SPLC")
- □ All new Directors "in-house" promotions
- New Functional Unit Research and Publication Unit
  - Provide strategic direction to CCS's economic and legal research efforts
  - Develop strong research culture for
  - CCS officers



## ICN 2016



- □ Hosted ICN 2016 in Singapore
- More than 500 participants (competition practitioners, experts and senior government officials) from over 80

jurisdictions







## ICN 2016



#### □ ASEAN focused sessions

- Special Plenary on Building Economic Communities with Competition Policy
- AANZFTA Heads of Agencies' Luncheon
- UNCTAD's Work on Competition and Consumer Protection Laws and Policies in the ASEAN and Pacific Region

#### □ Sessions for Younger Agencies

- International Cooperation: How to make it work for younger agencies?
- **D** By Younger Agencies for Younger Agencies
- Implementing ICN's Work: Making a Practical Impact
- **D** Effective Technical Assistance Programmes



#### ICN 2016

#### AANZFTA Heads of Agencies' Lunch Meeting





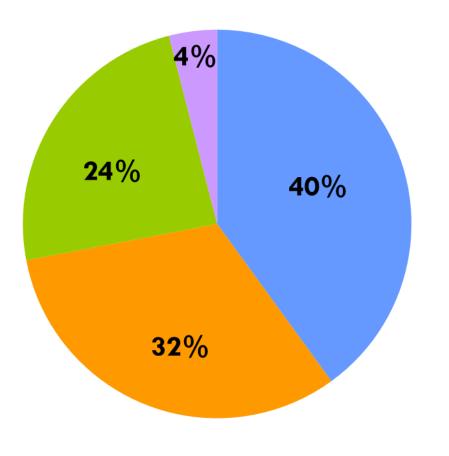
#### **Sessions for Younger Agencies**



International Cooperation: How to make it work for younger agencies? Effective Technical Assistance Programmes By Younger Agencies for Younger Agencies

SINGAPURE

#### **Cases Completed (FY 2015)**



- Section 34 (Anticompetitive agreements)
- Section 47 (Abuse of dominance)
- Section 54 (Mergers)

Section 34 & 47



### **Leniency Program Gaining Traction**

- $\square$  2005 2010: 5 applications
- $\Box$  2010 2016: more than 40 applications
- □ Review to further refine the CCS leniency program
  - More incentives such as a penalty discount of up to 50% will be provided for coercers and initiators of a cartel activity

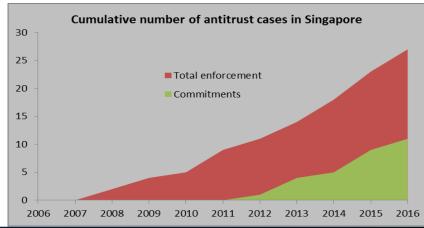


# Using wider range of tools to ensure markets work well

#### Commitments

Currently, CCS is empowered to accept legally binding commitments only in relation to merger cases

- Sections 60A, 60B and 85 of the Competition Act
- Non-binding undertakings for other types of cases, including anticompetitive agreements and abuses of dominance
  - Close an investigation on the basis that the undertaking addresses the competition concerns





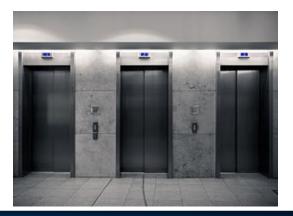
#### **Closing Investigations with Commitments**





Asia Pacific Breweries (Singapore) Pte Ltd ceased its practice of supplying draught beer to retail outlets solely on an exclusive basis.





E M Services committed to supply lift spare parts to all third-party lift maintenance contractors



one chance, one choice.

Cordlife Group Limited removed existing exclusive arrangements with baby fair organisers and hospitals.



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## **Quantifying Effects of CCS's Decisions**

Rationale

- Estimate benefits arising from enforcement
- Justify resources being spent on enforcement
- Understand if outcomes can be improved
- Ex-ante quantification and
  Ex-post quantification





# Providing greater clarity and streamlining processes

- □ Key changes in the CCS Guidelines Review
  - New Fast Track Procedure
  - Assessment of object cases
  - Change to relevant financial year for the calculation of penalties (on-going consultation)
  - New Commitments Procedure
  - Clarification that CCS will consider undertaking's business/ economic presence in Singapore when imposing financial penalties vs. where undertaking is located and/or where accounts are booked



### **E-Commerce in Singapore**

□ Rise in e-Commerce issues



- □ To further study E-commerce in ASEAN
- □ Working with other relevant government agencies
  - Dec 2015: Seminar to share findings of a CCScommissioned report on e-commerce
    - More than 150 participants from different business sectors
    - Report concluded that Singapore's competition law is generally well-equipped to deal with the issues that may arise in the context of digital markets (e.g. network effects and multi-sided platforms)
  - Help our Small and Medium Enterprises to leverage technology innovations to tap on new growth areas and to expand their regional or global reach



# Strengthening International & Regional Engagements









- Involved in negotiations of the TPP's competition chapter (most comprehensive to-date)
- Chairing negotiations for the Working Group on Competition under the RCEP
- Leading efforts in the ASEAN Competition Policy and Law Programme
- Chaired AEGC work group on developing strategy and tools for regional competition advocacy
- Co-organised training programme on Competition, Investment and Transparency with the US Federal Trade Commission





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#### Thank you for your attention

