



COMPETITION COUNCIL  
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

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**Mr Hassan Qaqaya**  
Chief, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch,  
Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities,  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva  
Switzerland

*Dear Mr Qaqaya,*

I am writing on behalf of the Competition Council of Latvia to express our support to the incentive of CUTS International to mark 5<sup>th</sup> December as a World Competition Day.

Today Latvia has strong competition policy which is successfully enforced both with antitrust cases and merger control. However, it has taken immense work to achieve that. Competition policy in Latvia dates back to 1991 when the first antitrust law was adopted. This led to the creation of the competition institution, just a few months after Latvia finally retrieved its independence and refused to continue course of planned economy. Thus, the competition policy was built in line with market economy as such.

Our experience in creation of an effective competition law shows that purposeful international competition advocacy activities that allow to share experience and knowledge as well as to raise awareness are necessary support for successful competition policy development at national level.

With every year business reality is less and less bound with national borders. Thus, also raises the need for global competition rules. World Competition Day can thus be used not only as a mean of raising awareness, but also as a platform to seek solutions for common competition issues.

Yours sincerely,

Chairwoman

S.Ābrama