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Ms Mamta Nayak
Programme Officer
CUTS Centre for Competition,
Investment & Economic Regulation
D-217, Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur,
302 016
India

Subject: CUTS and UNCTAD: World Competition Day

Dear Ms Nayak,

Thank you for your e-mail of 14 October 2014 informing Vice President Almunia about your campaign for a World Competition Day on 5 December.

The Vice President has asked me to respond to your message on his behalf and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you success with CUTS commendable initiative, which has become a tradition.

The Competition Day may contribute to increasing the international awareness on competition policy and, as such, contribute to increasing consumer welfare. I would be happy to pass on our views on your initiative to Mr Hassan Qaqaya of UNCTAD, who has been put in copy to this letter.

The choice for "Competition issues in Public Procurement" as theme for this year's event is an excellent one. It undoubtedly addresses some of the most detrimental types of cartel arrangements with huge costs for tax payers and society alike.

Finally, as we mentioned in our response in relation to last year's event, the EU also organises on a regular basis a Competition Day, which reflects the importance which we attach to this type of awareness raising events. The EU competition day brings together competition experts and representatives from civil society. The latest event took place in Rome on 10 October 2014 (http://ec.europa.eu/competition/ecn/brief/03_2014/it_rome.pdf).

Yours sincerely,

Blanca RODRIGUEZ GALINDO

Copy: Mr Hassan Qaqaya, Head Competition and Consumer Policies Branch at hasan.qaqaya@unctad.org