Memorandum of Agreement

between

The Competition Commission



shaping markets, furthering progress



The University of Technology, Mauritius



21 October 2024

Preamble

This MoA sets out the collaboration between the Competition Commission and the University of Technology, Mauritius.

1.1 The Competition Commission ("CC")

The CC is an independent statutory body established under the Competition Act 2007 (the "Competition Act"). Its goal is to promote competition and make markets work optimally in the interests of consumers and the economy of Mauritius. To this end, the CC is empowered to, interalia:

- enforce the Competition Act by investigating into anti-competitive collusive agreements, monopoly situation and mergers and taking actions against identified restrictive business practices;
- keep the operation of markets in Mauritius and the conditions in those markets under constant review;
- undertake general studies on the effectiveness of competition in individual sectors of the economy in Mauritius.

One of the strategic objectives of the CC is also to advocate on matters related to competition, foster research, and create more awareness on matters related thereto.

1.2 The University of Technology, Mauritius ("UTM")

The UTM operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology and is governed by the provisions of the UTM Act 2000.

The objects and functions of the UTM include inter alia:

- a. the provision of multi-level tertiary education, including continuing professional education;
- the fostering and encouragement of the advancement and development of knowledge and skills;
 and
- c. their application to research and other means, through industry, the services sector, commerce, and the public sector.

The UTM also provide research development and consultancy and other services for industrial or commercial organisations, public bodies, or individuals.

1. Scope of collaboration

In line with the objectives of the CC to promote competition and keep markets under constant review and the UTM's mandate to encourage research and collaboration, the CC and the UTM are collaborating through different initiatives, which in addition to fostering development of knowledge and skills, will also promote the competition culture.

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The objectives of this collaboration are:

- a. to bridge the gap between theoretical, empirical, and practical aspects with regards to competition economics and law for students of the UTM by conducting guest lectures and webinars;
- b. to gather primary data and promote research in the field of competition through joint market studies;
- c. to develop executive programs for the need of different stakeholders and bring competition knowledge to the legislator, policy makers and industry players for better awareness, advocacy as well as assessment of competition; and
- d. to advocate competition matters and disseminate information through participation at and organisation of conferences/workshops/specialised seminars.

2. Modalities of the MoA

The modalities of the MoA will be further defined depending on the initiatives and projects and is expected to evolve over time through mutual consultation and agreement.

3. Setting up of a Steering Review Committee

A Steering Review Committee ("SRC") will be set up to periodically review implementation of ongoing activities and to establish a workplan under this MoA as defined by mutual agreement between the two institutions. The SRC will also look into the set-up of new projects under this MoA.

4. Funding

Each party to this MoA shall be responsible for the funding of its own costs, except when there is agreement on funding modalities between the parties, for instance regarding the joint market study/research.

The financial modalities shall be discussed and mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties.

5. Implementation

The following activities have been identified consistent with the object and modalities of the MoA:

- 5.1 Conduct of webinars and guest lectures on competition economics and law;
- 5.2 Joint participation at conferences for advocacy on competition issues;
- 5.3 Elaboration and delivery of executive programs on competition matters;

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- 5.4 Conduct of joint market studies and sponsorship of academic research projects on competition matters:
- 5.5 Joint organisation of workshops/specialised seminars on competition matters.

The detailed modalities of the activities will be discussed when they arise.

6. Exchange of information

In pursuance of the envisaged collaboration, as set out above in Section 2, both parties agree to collect and share relevant information in compliance with the relevant provisions of the applicable law, including Section 70 of the Competition Act.

The parties further agree to maintain confidentiality on information gathered until their publication. The SRC may by mutual agreement determine on a case-to-case basis the type of information to be shared which can have trait to but not limited to statistical data, market analysis, case studies, research papers and so on.

The shared information shall be used for the agreed purpose by both institutions, for instance advocacy and enforcement purposes by the CC and dissemination of information by UTM in academia, conferences, academic journals and shall not be used for commercial or any other purpose. Any other potential use of information jointly collected by both institutions shall be used upon mutual agreement by both institutions.

7. Term of the MoA

Both, the CC and the UTM reserves the right to vary, amend, extend or terminate the MoA on mutually agreed terms, which shall be in writing.

We, the undersigned, hereby declare that we are the authorised signatories of this MoA as per legal provisions of our respective institutions.

University of Technology, Mauritius

Dr. Dinesh Kumar Hurreerame

Director General

Mrs Marie Joëlle Sandrine Valère President, UTM Board of Governors

PRESIDEN

Date: 21 October 2024

Competition Commission

Mr Deshmuk Kowlessur

Executive Director

Me. Mamade Aleem Bocus

Chairperson

Date: 21 October 2024