



## 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023 - WORLD COMPETITION DAY

### 14<sup>TH</sup> CALL FROM CUTS INTERNATIONAL

## THEME: PRIORITISING SOCIALLY SENSITIVE SECTORS

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### World Competition Day

On December 05, 1980, the United Nations Conference approved the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (the UN Set), thus marking a milestone in the history of Competition Law and Policy. CUTS International requests all stakeholders (such as national governments, competition agencies, civil society organisations, academia, media, etc.) to extend their support to its annual endeavour of observing December 05 as World Competition Day (WCD).

We are entering the **14<sup>th</sup> year** of this journey and are grateful to have received support from several stakeholders on our path.

### Prioritising Socially Sensitive Sectors

Convergence of several crises like pandemic, armed conflicts, climate change and the ensuing geopolitical churning are adversely affecting the society, in general, and poorer sectors, in particular. Broken supply chains, supply chain abuses, rising inflation, loss of jobs and lack of income opportunities, shortages of food and medicines, faltering infrastructure are some of the social pain points that can be attributed to such crises.

All these are adding to the existing socio-economic inequality within and between nations, going against the essence of 'building back better' – a call given during the pandemic.

The polity and regulators in their endeavours, therefore, ought to prioritise socially sensitive sectors and issues, such as pharmaceuticals and healthcare, food and agriculture, information and communication, education, jobs etc. In socially sensitive sectors 'equity' is as important as 'investment' and 'efficiency'.

### How can you contribute?

CUTS International suggests a few tools or methods, which could be adopted for celebrating the WCD. These comprise: organising webinars/seminars; preparing advocacy materials like pamphlets and posters; publishing newspaper articles and press releases; and undertaking social media campaigns, short videos, etc.

Alternatively, countries and competition authorities are free to choose their own themes and modes to celebrate WCD. The goal is to spread awareness among citizens regarding the benefits of a competitive market structure and the harmful effects of anticompetitive practices both at a national and international level.

CUTS would appreciate if you could intimate us of your respective activities on this occasion.