

Autorité  
de la concurrence



**SINGLE  
FULLY-FLEDGED  
INDEPENDENT...**

A new French competition Autorité



# The reform in 3 words

**CREATED BY THE LAW ON THE MODERNIZATION OF THE ECONOMY, THE AUTORITÉ DE LA CONCURRENCE SUCCEEDED THE CONSEIL DE LA CONCURRENCE ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2009.**

## **One-stop shop for mergers**

The Autorité de la concurrence is now responsible for merger control, from the notification to the final decision and its follow-up. Merging firms thus benefit from a one-stop shop throughout the entire process. They can share their competition diagnosis with the Autorité, as well as discuss the possible efficiency gains and the remedies the operation may require. The Government may, nonetheless, have the final say in exceptional cases where the country's fundamental interests are at stake, without calling into question the competitive analysis carried out by the Autorité.

## **Vertical integration of antitrust enforcement**

The Autorité's Investigation Services gain new powers regarding dawn raids and market inquiries. In the former system, these tasks were performed by the DGCCRF, a department of the Ministry of Economy. The Autorité is thus responsible for overseeing the competitive functioning of the markets from beginning to end, a move that should translate into a more consistent, speedier and targeted market surveillance.

As for the Board, that makes the final decision in full independence at the end of the process, it also gains new powers. For instance, it can impose structural remedies to a firm abusing its dominant position in the retail industry.

## **Influencing and enlightening the economic debate**

The reform grants the Autorité the power to issue, at its own initiative, public opinions concerning the competitive functioning of markets. Acting as an "advocate of competition", it may, whenever it deems appropriate, express the point of view of a competition expert, thus contributing to the public economic debate. It has the possibility, for example, to contribute to the drawing up of draft legislation and regulation or to recommend measures in order to improve the competitive functioning of markets.

**Decision making is vested with a collegial board, of 17 members, when meeting in plenary session.**



# Revamped international standing

## Enhanced visibility at international level

On the international stage, the Autorité de la concurrence is now speaking with one voice on all competition topics (antitrust, mergers, advocacy...). It will continue the job performed by the Conseil and the DGCCRF within international competition networks (OECD, UNCTAD, ICN...)...

## Stronger involvement in EU affairs

The reform reinforces the Autorité's responsibilities within the ECN (European Competition Network). The Autorité takes over competences from the Ministry of Economy : it may assist another national competition authority during inspections, handle merger referrals... it is also called to participate to all meetings of the advisory committee and to all working groups that assist the Commission in the shaping of a common competition policy.

## Bilateral cooperation

The Autorité often cooperates with its counterparts by providing assistance during inspections, exchanging information, organizing vocational training for experts. It cooperates also on more general topics related to competition law and policy.



# Organisation

## Hearing Adviser

N...

## Vice-Presidents

Françoise **Aubert**  
Anne **Perrot**  
Elisabeth **Flüry-Hérard**  
Patrick **Spilliaert**

## President

Bruno **Lasserre**

### Investigation Services

Virginie **Beaumeunier**, General Rapporteur

**Antitrust Unit 1**  
Pierre **Debrock**

**Antitrust Unit 2**  
Sébastien **Soriano**  
*with effect as from 1 September 2009*

**Antitrust Unit 3**  
Jean-Marc **Belorgey**

**Antitrust Unit 4**  
Stanislas **Martin**  
*with effect as from 1 September 2009*

**Antitrust Unit 5**  
Eric **Cuziat**

**Inspections Unit**  
Jean **Ravoire**

**Mergers Unit**  
Nadine **Mouy**

**Economic Service**  
Philippe **Choné**



## Non permanent members

Jean-Vincent **Boussiquet**  
Emmanuel **Combe**  
Jean-Bertrand **Drummen**  
Laurence **Idot**  
Denis **Payre**  
Thierry **Tuot**

Yves **Brissy**  
Noël **Diricq**  
Pierre **Godé**  
Reine-Claude **Mader-Saussaye**  
Pierrette **Pinot**  
Carol **Xueref**

### Office of the President

Fabien Zivy

### Communications Office

Virginie Guin

### Legal Service

Irène Luc

### Administrative Services

Isabelle **Sévajols**, Secretary General

### Registry

Thierry **Poncelet**

### Human Resources Unit

Jocelyne **Gaumet**

### Budget Unit

Josiane **Mollet**

### IT Unit

Cyrille **Garnier**

### Documentation Unit

Anne **Parthuisot**

### Technical Support Unit

Philippe **Moles**

# The Board



**Bruno LASSERRE**  
President  
Senior judge at the Supreme Court  
for administrative law  
(Conseil d'Etat)



**Françoise AUBERT**  
Vice President  
Honorary judge at the Court  
of cassation



**Reine-Claude MADER-SAUSSAYE**  
President of the Confederation  
for consumer protection,  
housing, quality of life



**Pierrette PINOT**  
Judge at the Court of cassation



**Emmanuel COMBE**  
Professor of economics  
(University of Paris I, associate  
professor at ESCP)



**Pierre GODÉ**  
Member of the Board of  
directors of the LVMH company



**Jean-Vincent BOUSSIQUET**  
President of the professional  
organization "framework,  
joinery and fittings"



**Laurence IDOT**  
Professor of law  
(University of Paris II)



**Anne PERROT**  
Vice President  
Professor of economics  
(University of Paris 1  
and ENSAE)



**Elisabeth FLÛRY-HÉRARD**  
Vice President  
Former member of the board  
of the Broadcasting regulator  
(CSA)



**Patrick SPILLIAERT**  
Vice President  
Magistrate at the Court  
of Accounts



**Carol XUEREF**  
Director for Legal Affairs and  
Group Development Essilor  
International S.A



**Jean-Bertrand DRUMMEN**  
President of the commercial  
court of Nanterre



**Yves BRISSY**  
Member of the Paris Bar



**Noël DIRICO**  
Senior magistrate at the Court of  
Accounts



**Thierry TUOT**  
Senior judge at the Supreme  
Court for administrative law  
(Conseil d'Etat)



**Denis PAYRE**  
President and CEO Kiala SA

# Team in charge of external relations

## Office of the President



**Fabien Zivy**  
Chief of staff



**Stéphanie Yon**  
Adviser for  
International Affairs



**Liza Bellulo**  
Adviser for  
European Affairs



**Maxime Legrand**  
Economic adviser



**Gillian Arnoux**  
Adviser for  
European Affairs

## Legal Service



**Irène Luc**  
Chief of  
Legal Service



**Anne Krenzer**  
Legal Adviser for  
the ECN

The screenshot shows the website of the French Competition Authority (Autorité de la concurrence). The page features a navigation menu at the top with links for 'Accueil', 'Le président', 'Contact', 'Avis', 'Lettre', and 'A la une'. Below the navigation, there is a section titled 'Décisions et avis' with a list of recent decisions and acts, including dates and brief descriptions of the cases. A sidebar on the left contains a menu with categories like 'L'Autorité de la concurrence', 'Le comité des pratiques anticoncurrentielles', 'Les procédures négociées', 'Le contrôle des concentrations', 'Les avis et recommandations', 'L'activité communautaire et internationale', 'Les textes de référence', 'Publications', and 'Espace presse'. On the right, there is a 'A la une' section with a highlighted article about the Authority's adoption of a regulation on e-commerce and a charter on e-commerce.

[www.autoritedelaconcurrence.fr](http://www.autoritedelaconcurrence.fr)