

GMAP Internship Report / GMAP インターンシップ報告書

No. 2023-05

I. Basic information / 基本情報

- 1) Name / 名前 : Battsetseg Tumur
- 2) Enrolled year / 入学年 : 2022
- 3) Period of internship / インターン期間 : 17th-25th October 2023, 5th-7th March 2024
- 4) Place of internship / インターン場所 : JICA, OECD
- 5) Person who accepted your internship / インターン受入担当者 : Sawako Ogawa, Hanyaku Sumiko
- 6) Content of work in your internship / インターン中の作業内容
 - Lecture
 - Case study
 - Workshop

II. Details and impressions / 詳細と感想

1. Preface

My short-term internship consisted of two parts: attending special training on Japanese competition law and policy for international practitioners and attending two workshops and a conference on competition law at OECD in Paris.

During my internship, I gained valuable experience not only in the case-handling practice of JFTC and the EU countries but also in the academic knowledge of professors teaching competition law at Kobe University, Kyoto University, Okayama University, and Konan University.

I am grateful to my academic supervisor, Prof. Kawashima, for his support and for arranging my internship.

2. Details of my internship

a. JICA training

I attended the “Competition Law and Policy – Creating a Foundation to Promote Competition” subject-specific training on Japanese competition law and policy for international practitioners in Tokyo and Kobe City. The “Competition Law and Policy – Creating a Foundation to Promote Competition” subject-specific training program was organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in cooperation with the Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC).

I had the opportunity to join JFTC’s seminar, where JFTC’s officers shared their experiences and case studies with us during the first week of the training in Tokyo. During the seminar, I understood JFTC’s experience of how they work on the investigation, methods of collecting evidence in the investigation, and market study in the digital sector. Market study and investigation in the digital sector have recently

been challenging among competition agencies.

I engaged in hypothetical case handling in the digital market. The case study was crucial for me because I learned how to define the digital market and how to identify competitors in the same market. I also gained awareness of issues in the digital market in order to investigate cases. On the other hand, I understood that practitioners who work in competition agencies have to know the operation of digital platforms and need policy planning for the digital market.



After a case study with JFTC's officer and international participants



Worked on a case study with international participants at the JICA Center in Tokyo

My second week was spent attending academic lectures and case study in Kobe City. Although I took

the Competition Law course from the GMAP in Law program at Kobe University, I had another opportunity to attend lectures that focused on each competition law and regulations and included case explanations from other professors.



The professor was explaining a hypothetical cartel case at the JICA Kansai Center.

I also visited with other international participants the JFTC branch office in Osaka. Sakamoto Yoshihisa, Director of the Investigation Division III, and Okui Takashi, Economic Affairs Officer, introduced how they work in the branch office, their responsibility, and how they cooperate with the head office.

As well as, I learned about their case handling status of violation of the Anti-monopoly Act at the Kinki-Chugoku-Shikoku office, a case that the local office investigated and enforcement of merger regulation by the local office.

It was interesting because I visited the JFTC headquarters (HQ) a few times but I didn't know how the JFTC branch office in a rural area works. I could get investigation process of the local office, cooperation with JFTC HQ, and how many people work in the branch office.



Visiting the branch office of the JFTC in Osaka

b. OECD workshops and Competition Open Day conference

The second part of my short-internship was three days of attending two workshops and a conference at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) headquarter in Paris.

I have attended two workshops and one conference: Recent Developments in Fighting Bid Rigging in Public Procurement, Enforcement Challenges in Digital Markets, and the OECD Competition Open Day conference.

I joined those workshops and a conference that were closed to the public, with delegates from international competition agencies.

Spain, Norway, the European Commission, the USA, and the UK delegates shared with us their experience of fighting cartel and bid-rigging cases in a workshop on recent developments in fighting bid rigging in public procurement. As for me, it was a fascinating topic that is related to my thesis topic. From this workshop, I learned that competition agencies now focus on developing algorithms for bid rigging investigation and raising awareness for human resources who works in procurement agencies, and that they have a lot of challenges to tackle.

I mentioned earlier that digital market study and investigation have been a challenge and trend worldwide. I learned about the EU Member states' case handling during the workshop on enforcement challenges in the digital market. All cases involved the biggest tech companies in the world. For example, the European Commission shared with us how to define the digital market using the SSNIP test, and the Korean Fair Trade Commission introduced the Google app market case, and so on.

Finally, I attended the OECD Competition Open Day conference, which is held every year in Paris.

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At the headquarter of OECD in Paris

3. Conclusion

My short-term internship at JICA and OECD has enriched me with valuable information and cutting-edge insights into the digital field. It has also provided me with awareness of the challenges of competition law enforcement.

This experience is a precious treasure for me, contributing to my deepening and broadening knowledge of competition law enforcement.

Once again, I am grateful to Prof. Kawashima, the Academic Office of GMAP in Law program, and the Legal and Justice Team at JICA for their support and this opportunity.

(Date: 2024.3.18)