11th Meeting of the Working Group on Research of Competition Issues on Pharmaceutical Markets 21 September 2017 Velikiy Novgorod

One of the most important and socially acute problems of the modern pharmaceutical market is the problem of medical products pricing.

In order to gain full control of pricing, it is necessary for antimonopoly regulators to solve existing problems. One of the first steps is to conduct an analysis of world prices for medicines. This analysis can be conducted both within national jurisdictions and at the international level by drawing up a price base for medicines in different countries and their further comparison within the framework of joint international work of regulatory bodies.

Such an analysis can become a prerequisite for a more extensive comparison of drug pricing procedures in different jurisdictions, which will later help in organization of global discussions between Competition Authorities and heads of international pharmaceutical companies. In addition, many antimonopoly regulators have repeatedly emphasized the importance of analyzing the world market for medicines and the need to initiate and organize meetings at the level of CEOs of transnational pharmaceutical companies to discuss the following unfair practices: overstating prices for certain positions, bribery to doctors, health professionals and government officials aimed at creating preferences in the market, selling overdue drugs, creating artificial monopolies, etc.

Questions for the discussion:

- How is pricing for medicines regulated today?
- Has your Authority ever conducted a medicines price analysis, by which criteria were the medicines analyzed?
- Are there cases in your jurisdiction that are associated with the unfair practices of pharmaceutical companies, namely: data manipulation (substitution of data entered in the registration dossier), bribery to medical personnel and representatives of executive bodies, unfair behavior of regulatory authorities aimed at creating preferences for certain companies (Creation of artificial monopolies), as well as overestimation of prices for certain medications?
- Is it possible to organize global discussions between Competition Authorities and heads of international pharmaceutical companies to discuss current industry problems and prospects for further interaction between the state and business?