

## ECONOMICS ROUND TABLES

### NOTE BY THE CC

*Economics Roundtables were organized on 2 October by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and the Competition Commission (CC), as contributions to their joint merger guidelines review. Following an introduction by Peter Freeman, chairman of the Competition Commission, two sessions were held, at which prominent external economists, CC/OFT staff and CC members discussed some of the more complex issues in the substantive assessment of mergers. The two sessions covered:*

*1. Non-horizontal effects, chaired by Dr Amelia Fletcher, Chief Economist of the OFT, with the following panellists:*

- Professor Mike Whinston, Northwestern University*
- Professor Margaret Slade, University of British Columbia*
- Dr Mark Williams, NERA*
- Dr Jorge Padilla, LECG*

*2. Co-ordinated effects, chaired by Dr Peter Davis, Deputy Chairman of the CC, with the following panellists:*

- Professor Kai-Uwe Kühn, University of Michigan*
- Professor Bruno Jullien, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*
- Professor Valerie Suslow, University of Michigan Ross School of Business*
- Professor Stephen Davies, Centre for Competition Policy, University of East Anglia*

*Staff and members from the CC and OFT staff participated in both sessions, including John Davies (CC Chief Economist), Professor Bruce Lyons (CC member), Dr John Collings (CC member), Dr Chris Walters (Associate Director, OFT mergers branch) and Dr Nicola Mazzarotto (Head of Policy Analysis, CC).*

*Transcripts of the Round Tables are at:*

[\*A roundtable to discuss: Non-Horizontal Effects - How far should guidelines go?\*](#)

[\*A roundtable to discuss: Co-ordinated effects - What is the right analytical threshold?\*](#)