OECD and Inter-American Development Bank Establish Partnership to Promote Competition in Latin American Countries

The OECD and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) have launched a partnership to promote competition law and policy and encourage greater competitiveness in Latin American economies. The two organisations will join forces to promote competitive markets in the region as a key element in boosting economic growth, employment, innovation and living standards.

The first event organised by the OECD and the IADB in the framework of their new co-operation will be the Latin American Competition Forum, to be held in Paris on 7-8 April 2003.

The Forum’s programme will feature a peer review of Chile’s competition institutions. Other key themes for discussion will be the benefits of applying a competition dimension to all economic policymaking and the impact of foreign direct investment on competition in several key infrastructure sectors, namely electricity, telecommunications and financial services. The agenda will also address diverse challenges to introducing competition in Latin America and conclude with a session on future directions for the Latin American Competition Forum. This conference will be the first step in what the OECD hopes will be a long-standing co-operation between the two organisations.

For further information on this meeting or other aspects of the OECD’s co-operation with the IADB on competitiveness in the region, journalists are invited to contact Paul Crampton (Tel: [33] 1 45 24 19 72 or paul.crampton@oecd.org) or Lennart Goranson (Tel: [33] 1 45 24 91 44 or lennart.goranson@oecd.org).