



NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Competition Law News

By Lifang & Partners

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SAMR Invites Public Comments on the *Anti-Monopoly Law (Draft Amendment)*

On 2 January 2020, China's State Administration for Market Regulation ("SAMR") issued the *Anti-Monopoly Law (Draft Amendment)* ("Draft Amendment") to solicit the public's opinion. This is the first draft amendment unveiled officially since the *Anti-Monopoly Law* ("AML") has taken into effect from 1 August 2008. The Draft Amendment optimizes legal responsibilities, increases penalties, and adds the *Fair Competition Review System*, stop-the-clock mechanism, etc. ([More](#))

SAMR Fines Liaoning Port CNY 350,000 for Gun-jumping

On 30 December 2019, SAMR published its sanction decision in which Liaoning Port Group Co., Ltd. ("Liaoning Port") was fined CNY 350,000 for gun-jumping in the acquisition of Dalian Port Group Co., Ltd. and Yingkou Port Group Co., Ltd. Liaoning Port signed the share transfer agreement with the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of Dalian and Yingkou respectively on 20 December 2017. This deal has met the thresholds of merger filing, but Liaoning Port failed to file the deal, which violated the provisions on the concentration of undertakings under Article 21 of the AML. ([More](#))

1st Yangtze River Delta Antitrust Enforcement Cooperation Meeting Held in Shanghai

Recently, the 1st Yangtze River Delta Antitrust Enforcement Cooperation Meeting was held in Shanghai. The main officials of each antitrust enforcement division of the Administration for Market Regulation of Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Anhui attended the meeting, planned the antitrust enforcement in 2020, introduced their respective work and experience, exchanged ideas on some difficulties and common problems and reached consensus on the cooperation mechanism. ([More](#))

Court Rules to Coerce the Antitrust Fine Against A Vehicle Inspection Company

Recently, Wuhan Wuchang District People's Court issued an administrative ruling in which Xianning Landun Vehicle Inspection Co., Ltd. ("Landun") was forced to enforce the antitrust sanction decision issued by the Administration for Market Regulation of Hubei Province. Previously, Landun was fined and confiscated of illegal gains CNY 630,000 in total for price-fixing. However, after receiving the decision, Landun failed to apply for administrative review or file an administrative lawsuit within the statutory time limit and failed to perform its obligations after receiving the reminder. ([More](#))

Overseas News

Russian Competition Watchdog Opens Antitrust Investigation into Booking.com

On 30 December 2019, *Reuters* reported that Russia's Federal Anti-monopoly Service ("FAS") had opened an investigation into hotel reservation website Booking.com. The FAS said that the company had asked hotels and hostels to offer the same prices on rival reservation websites as on Booking.com. If found to be in breach of Russian anti-monopoly laws, the company could face a fine of between 1% and 15% of its revenue generated in Russia. ([More](#))

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