

**DECISION N° 519**

**LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COOPERATION IN TRADE AND COMPETITION**

**THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNCIL,**

**HAVING SEEN:**

Article 3 of the Panama Convention,

**CONSIDERING:**

That, within the framework of the Second UNCTAD-SELA Regional Seminar on Trade and Competition, held from 26 to 28 May 2010 in Brasilia, Brazil, trade and competition officials of the Member States concluded that there are multiple and very different needs for institutional strengthening of competition policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, which should be addressed by reinforcing integration and cooperation among national authorities in order to achieve, inter alia, similar levels of strength and technical capacity, with the purpose of eliminating the asymmetries in this field within the regional integration process.

That, in view of the above, said national authorities requested to establish a Working Group on Trade and Competition of Latin America and the Caribbean, made up by the respective national authorities of the Member States of SELA.

**DECIDES:**

To support and endorse the decision to establish a Working Group on Trade and Competition in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to request the Permanent Secretariat to provide the necessary technical support for the organization, preparation and implementation of the activities identified by the Group.