

## **CALL FOR PAPERS: 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMPETITION AND ECONOMIC REGULATION (ACER) WEEK**

**2-6 October 2023**

**The Ravenala Hotel, BalACLava, Mauritius**

The Competition Commission of Mauritius and the University of Johannesburg's Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development are honoured to host the 8th Annual Competition and Economic Regulation (ACER) Week. ACER provides a valuable platform for competition authorities and regulators to share knowledge, keep abreast of key developments across the region, and build networks for collaboration between agencies. ACER week combines targeted professional training programmes from 2-4 October 2023, and a conference on 5 and 6 October 2023. Information on the ACER courses will be made available shortly.

The conference seeks to address issues of direct interest to competition authorities, economic regulators and industrial development practitioners in Africa. Abstracts for proposed conference papers are invited on all issues of competition policy, law, economics and enforcement, as well as on economic regulation, and regional development in Africa. The papers will be selected from the abstracts submitted. We particularly invite papers on the following key themes for this conference:

- competition law and policy in responding to economic shocks and recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, such as in food and other essential products;
- competition law and policy in light of regional and continental integration (including competition issues in cross-border markets, collusion and merger evaluation, competition and the AfCFTA);
- developments in digital markets and the relevance for African markets;
- the development of competition authorities in Africa and practical challenges in building competition regimes;
- alternative enforcement and competition tools including market inquiries/studies and impact assessments.

Abstracts should be no more than 250 words. Abstracts may be submitted to Olwethu Shedi at [olwethus@uj.ac.za](mailto:olwethus@uj.ac.za) on or before **30 April 2023**. Acceptance of papers will be communicated by **31 May 2023**. Final papers must be submitted by **17 September 2023**. Please note that ACER will be held in person and with the working language being English.

General ACER queries can be directed to Seli Nthite. Tel: +27 11 559 7523. E-mail: [selim@uj.ac.za](mailto:selim@uj.ac.za)