Preface

The Centre on Regulation and Competition (CRC) was established in 2001 with core funding from the UK Department of International Development, to conduct research into hitherto neglected issues of competition, regulation and regulatory governance in developing countries. This Elgar Series represents one of many forms of dissemination of research findings and conceptual studies, including conferences, workshops, journal publication and policy briefs.

A particular focus in CRC’s policy-related work is on the linkages between regulatory reforms, pro-poor growth, and more general structures and processes of development. This book, the third in the series, examines the impact that regulation – good or bad – can have on the development of poorer societies. The volume opens with a review of some critical general issues, including the implications of the spread of intellectual property rights legislation and the role of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Subsequent chapters examine the regulatory experiences of three important developing economies: Brazil, Ghana and South Africa. Key regulatory themes are analysed, most notably capital markets and corporate governance regulation, the regulation of the telecommunications sector, and the use of regulatory reforms to promote the development of small and medium enterprises. Within each chapter, policy lessons are drawn whose relevance extends well beyond national or even regional boundaries. The principal contribution of the book is to show the extent to which regulation is moving increasingly to centre stage as a driver of development in Africa and Latin America.

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