

**Workshop on “Competition vs. Regulation and the Appropriate
Organizational Structure of a Competition Agency”**

06 – 07 April 2021, 12:00 PM, Turkey Time

Opening Statement of H.E. Mr. Nebil DABUR

Director General of SESRIC

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Excellences, Distinguished Participants, Dear Sisters and Brothers

السّلام علیکم ورحمة الله وبرکاته

Very Good Day to all of you

I am pleased to welcome you all to the Workshop on “Competition vs. Regulation and the Appropriate Organizational Structure of a Competition Agency”. We are honoured at SESRIC to organise this workshop in partnership with the Turkish Competition Authority (TCA) within the framework of our Centre’s Competition Authorities Capacity Building Programme (CA-CaB).

Today, we are delighted to bring together representatives from the national and regional competition authorities in the OIC Member States. I would like to thank all of them for accepting our invitation and allocating part of their valuable time to attend and participate in this important Workshop.

My sincere thanks and appreciation are also extended to the Turkish Competition Authority for their close cooperation with SESRIC in organising this Workshop and their continuous support and valuable contributions to the activities of our Centre's Competition Authorities Capacity Building Programme.

Dear Participants,

Competition authorities are the entities responsible for enforcing competition law in the market. Their practices and functions usually include investigating mergers, inspecting competition and consumer problems and undertaking relevant market studies to check out any violations of law against anti-competitive agreements and abuses of dominant positions.

Whether they are mandated with regulating and enforcing competition laws only, or enforcing consumer protection too, the role of competition authorities is vital in ensuring the dominance of competitive conditions in the market and safeguarding efficient system for monitoring and controlling anticompetitive behaviours and preventing them in a timely manner.

Therefore, competition laws and efficient competition institutions have a positive impact, not only on the well-being of the consumers, but also on the country's economy as a whole through promoting and contributing to the achievement of sustainable economic development.

In the case of OIC member countries, some of them still do not have a well-developed competition law and policy in place, and some others are still working on developing the structure of their competition agencies and authorities.

Given this state of affairs, SESRIC has developed its Competition Authorities Capacity Building Programme back in 2012. The Programme aims at enhancing the technical and institutional capacities of the Competition Authorities in the OIC member countries through facilitating the exchange of knowledge and sharing the best practices and expertise among them.

Within the framework of this Programme, we have so far conducted 20 different capacity building activities covering various aspects of competition rules and regulations, and we, at SESRIC, are always ready and willing to conduct further activities for the benefit of our member countries to contribute to their efforts towards enhancing the technical and institutional capacities of their competition authorities.

Dear Participants,

Today's Workshop will shed the light on common topics of interest to all competition authorities and hopefully it will help us to better understanding the technical challenges which are still facing the competition authorities of our member countries. This could help us addressing the capacity building gaps and needs to generate collective action towards more effective and well-functioning competition authorities in the OIC member countries.

Before concluding, I would like to say that, as SESRIC, we are very glad to collaborate with the Turkish Competition Authority in organising this Workshop and we hope that this opportunity would facilitate further collaborations among the participating Competition Authorities in the near future.

Thanking you all once again, I wish you a fruitful exchange of experiences and a successful Workshop throughout the upcoming two days.

Thank you all for your kind attention. والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته