

Training Course on “Anti-Competitive Practices and Promotion of Competition”

30 March 2021, 03:00 PM Turkey Time

Opening Statement of H.E. Mr. Nebil DABUR

Director General of SESRIC

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Excellences, Dear Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

السَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

I wish you all a very Good Day

I am pleased to welcome you all to this virtual training course on “Anti-Competitive Practices and Promotion of Competition”. We organize this training course within the framework of SESRIC Competition Authorities Capacity Building Programme (CA-CaB), which aims at enhancing the knowledge, sharing the expertise and exchanging the best practices among the national Competition Authorities in our member countries.

Let me, at the outset, express my sincere thanks and appreciation to H.E. Mr. Birol KÜLE, President of the Turkish Competition Authority and H.E. Mr. Ridha Ben MAHMOUD, President of the Tunisian Competition Council, for accepting our invitation and nominating prominent experts to provide this training course for the benefit of participants from the National Commission for Competition and Consumption (CNCC) of Burkina Faso.

My deep thanks and appreciation are also extended to Her Excellency Ms. Bibata NEBIE OUEDRAOGO, President of the National Commission for Competition and Consumption (CNCC) of Burkina Faso for accepting our proposal to organise this training course online for the benefit of the staff of their Esteemed Institution through video conferencing platform.

Dear Participants,

As we all know, the Competition Authority in any country assumes the role of the regulator in preventing anti-competitive conduct, such as collusion and monopolization. With this role, the Competition Authority contribute to protecting the rights of the consumers by monitoring, regulating and supervising the markets in order to establish a well-functioning competition system.

Competition Authorities function as a promoter and advocate of fair competition and consumer interests by safeguarding the freedom of enterprises and ensuring efficient allocation of resources. By so doing, Competition Authorities contribute also to increasing social welfare in the society.

In this regard, and due to the importance of this domain in our member countries, SESRIC initiated its Competition Authorities Capacity Building Programme (CA-CaB) in 2012 to provide a framework of cooperation and to strengthen collaboration between national Competition Authorities in the OIC member countries.

Within the framework of this programme, the Centre organises short-term training courses (like this one), training workshops, and study visits on a wide range of technical topics related to the work field of the Competition Authorities, such as competition advocacy, competition law, and competition assessment practices, etc. This is usually done by matching the needs and capacities of the national competition institutions in the member countries.

Dear Participants,

In the last few decades, statistics have shown that countries, which utilised the underlying principles of a free market system controlled by competition rules, have experienced a great increase in their GDPs. The growth in the wealth of such countries was also accompanied by an increase in the quality of their citizen's life.

However, this advancement remained limited to the countries with an effective control of the free market system through effective implementation of competition rules that prevent cartelization and monopolization. In this regard, it has been widely accepted that no economy in the world can progress without an effectively applied competition law that prevents anticompetitive practices and conducts in the markets.

In this context, the today's training course is designed with the aim of enhancing the participants' knowledge and expertise on the fundamentals of restrictive competition practices, promotion of competition and the measures and regulations undertaken by competition authorities to achieve an efficient competitive environment.

The course will provide insights on technical topics such as anticompetitive agreements and cartels, exemptions, abuse of dominant position, mergers and acquisitions, bid-rigging, and promotion of competition.

I am confident that this online training course will contribute positively and will add value to the work and expertise of the participants. It will facilitate knowledge exchange among the Turkish and Tunisian experts and their counterparts in Burkina Faso and help to increase the capacities of all participants.

I would also like to state that, as SESRIC, we are very glad to collaborate with the Turkish Competition Authority and the Tunisian Competition Council in this capacity-building programme. We trust their wide experience in the field and we look forward to furthering collaborations with the National Commission for Competition and Consumption (CNCC) of Burkina Faso in the near future.

Dear Participants,

Before concluding, I am pleased to announce that SESRIC, in cooperation with Turkish Competition Authority, will organizing virtually online a Workshop on “Competition vs. Regulation and the Appropriate Organizational Structure of a Competition Agency” for the benefit of all national competition institutions in our member countries next week on 06-07 April.

The main objective of this Workshop is to bring together representatives of national competition authorities of the OIC member countries to discuss various topics related to competition and regulation with a view to sharing country experiences and best practices and enhancing of intra-OIC cooperation and dialogue in this important field.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to invite all the Competition Authorities to actively participate and cooperate with SESRIC towards the successful organisation of this important Workshop.

Thanking you once again, I wish you all a fruitful exchange of experiences and successful training in the upcoming days.

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