Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral cooperation between the Turkish Competition Authority and the Egyptian Competition Authority

The Turkish Competition Authority and the Egyptian Competition Authority, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

Expressing the wish to promote cooperation and enforcement in the field of competition law and policy,

Aiming at the creation of favourable conditions for the development of bilateral relations, based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit,

Ensuring the conditions for an effective functioning of the goods and services markets according to the competition rules/principles,

Highlighting the role of competition policy in creating an effective and real development of the market economy and to serve the interest of the investor, the benefit of the consumers and the national economy in general,

Recognising that cooperation between the Parties will contribute to improving and strengthening their relationship,

Desiring to enhance the Egyptian-Turkish relations with the objectives of Trade Road Map for the year 2010, and beyond,

Have agreed the following:

Article 1

The Parties will promote and strengthen cooperation in the competition law enforcement and policy in accordance with their national laws and regulations, particularly those related to the protection of confidential information.

Article 2

For the mutual interest of the Parties, cooperation will be focused on the following areas:

- a) exchange of non-confidential information on cases, legislative norms, developments and other legal tools on the basis of which the Parties' activities are carried out for the fulfillment of competences in the competition field, taking into consideration the relevant national laws and the experience of the Parties;
- b) exchange of information on the procedural aspects of antitrust enforcement;
- c) exchange of information on the relationship between the competition authorities and the sectoral regulatory agencies;
- d) exchange of information on market developments and on decisions adopted;
- e) exchange of information on best practices in economics of antitrust and merger control;
- f) exchange of experience in the field of case investigations, concerning the violation of competition legislation:
- g) development of mutual cooperation and exchange of views in the preparation of international activities;
- h) coordinate between competition authorities in both countries with regard to investigating and studying the common interest cases, on case by case basis, and in accordance with the national regulations and laws of each country.

Article 3

The main instruments of cooperation shall comprise the following:

- a) within the limit of available funds and mutual consent of the Parties, organization of seminars and study visits for professional training in the area of competition law and policy;
- b) organization of bilateral working groups to operatively ensure the interface for the exchange of information on matters of common interest;
- c) exchange of experts for participation in professional activities and/or for assistance on enforcement and for improvement of decision-making process, if necessary, at the request of one of the Parties;
- d) organization of meetings between the Turkish and Egyptian high rank officials for exchanging information on the latest developments in their respective competition law and policy:

- e) expert meetings or consultation possibilities via e-mail between the experts of the Parties which operatively ensure the interface for exchange of information on concrete interest issues:
- f) exchange of non confidential documents, studies, books and publications on competition issues;
- g) any other form of cooperation that may be jointly decided upon by the Parties.

Article 4

The transfer of information will be made in English language by e-mail through designated general contact points or on the occasion of meetings attended by the representatives of the Parties.

Article 5

In order to meet the objectives of the present Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties shall designate the contact persons.

Article 6

The agenda of events, dates, places and any other matter will be, by common agreement, established by the Parties.

Article 7

The disputes regarding the interpretation and implementation of the present Memorandum of Understanding will be solved by the Parties through friendly means.

Article 8

The present Memorandum of Understanding does not constitute an agreement binding under international law. The Parties do not hereby intend to create any legal commitments.

The present Memorandum of Understanding will not infringe and/or affect the rights and obligations of the Parties relating to other bilateral or international agreements which they are signatories to.

Article 9

The present Memorandum of Understanding can be jointly revised by the Parties, after prior consultations.

Article 10

The present Memorandum of Understanding enters into force at the date of effective signatures and is valid for an unlimited period of time.

Article 11

Each of the Parties has the right to withdraw from the Memorandum of Understanding by submitting a prior written notification to the other Party.

Article 12

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Cairo on November 17, 2012 in two copies.

Hayati Yazıcı

Minister of Customs and Trade of the Republic of Turkey

Mohamed Kamel Amr

Mohamed Kamel Amr
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the
Arab Republic of Egypt