

Competition Authority is organizing a workshop on December 9-10, 2013 in Kalyon Otel, İstanbul, with the participation of representatives from the competition authorities of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states, in order to analyze the challenges faced by the member states in the application of competition law.

In the 18th meeting of the Sessional Committee, which was held with the participation of OIC General Secretariat, Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) Coordination Office, OIC Organs and project-owner national authorities, Competition Authority presented the "Project Profile Form" for Technical Assistance to OIC States in the area of Competition Law, which was prepared in cooperation with the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT). Within the framework of the decisions taken in the 18th COMCEC Sessional Committee, as the first stage of the technical assistance program, Competition Authority was given the task to organize a conference to serve as a platform for "assessing the needs" of the OIC members states in the field of competition law.

Within this context, Competition Authority and ICDT held the "Istanbul Conference on "Istanbul Conference on Needs Assessment of the OIC Member States in the Field of Competition Law and Policy," on 21-22 November, 2011. The declaration issued at the end of the conference emphasized that it was important to raise awareness in the OIC states in the field of Competition Law and to create a forum for discussion between OIC members which would allow experience sharing in this area, and Competition Authority was asked to work in cooperation with the COMCEC Coordination Office on this subject.

In light of the decisions taken in the Conference, experts from the Competition Authority provided technical assistance to the Indonesian Commission for the Supervision of Business Competition, Albanian Competition Authority, Pakistan Competition Commission and Bangladeshi government officials within the year 2013.

In continuation of the project, Competition Authority is organizing a workshop on December 9-10, 2013 in Kalyon Otel, İstanbul, with the participation of representatives from the competition authorities of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states, in order to analyze the challenges faced by the member states in the application of competition law. The organization of the workshop, which will be attended by representatives from the competition authorities of 34 OIC member states, was welcomed by the 29th COMCEC Sessional Committee and a decision was taken on the subject accordingly.

The main purpose of the workshop is to exchange experience between OIC member states concerning competition law practices and emphasize the importance of competition policy for economic growth and poverty reduction goals. The sessions of the workshop will include academic guests and, principally, representatives of the member states.