

## REPORT ON THE

### **REGIONAL SEMINAR ON “COMPETITION POLICIES AND REGULATIONS IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES: PRESENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS”, TUNIS, 22-24 FEBRUARY 2010.**

Within the framework of its technical assistance and trade capacity building programme for the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Ministry of Commerce and Handicrafts of the Tunisian Republic and the Islamic Research and Training Institute (Islamic Development Bank Group) organized jointly a regional seminar on “*Competition Policies in the OIC Member States: Present Status and prospects*” in Tunis from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

The aim of this seminar is: to take stock of the legal situation and competition policies in the OIC Member State with a view to examining the ways and means likely to promote competition law and facilitate intra-OIC trade and investments, and explore the launching modalities of the cooperation programme among the OIC Member States in the field of competition law and policies.

This seminar was attended by:

- **OIC Member States:** Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Gambia, Jordan, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Uganda, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen.
- **Some International Organizations:** ICDT, IRTI/IDB Group, OECD, UNCTAD and EU.

After the recitation of Verses from the Holy Quran, welcoming addresses were done by H.E MM. the Minister of Commerce and Handicraft of the Tunisian Republic and Mr. Allal RACHDI, Director General of ICDT.

After the opening session, the proceedings of the Seminar were held by different Experts from the following Organizations and Member States who made the following presentations:

- ✓ Status of the Competition Policy in the Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and attempts to establish an International Competition Law- ICDT;
- ✓ Economic approach to competition policies and regulations (Review of the theoretical approach of the market organization and the practices of enterprises)- ICDT.

- ✓ Constituents of the competition policies: Concepts, Main economic terms: competition; supply/demand and the notion of the market- TUNISIA;
- ✓ International Standards and criteria adopted for the drafting of competition laws and regulations: Model Law of the UNCTAD and the indicative rules agreed upon within the framework of the Organisation of the Arab League- UNCTAD;
- ✓ International standards and criteria adopted for the drafting of the Competition law and regulations: European Law- European Union;
- ✓ Implementation scope of the competition law: concerned sectors and exceptions-TUNISIA, EGYPT AND TURKEY;
- ✓ Anti-competitive practices: Vertical and Horizontal agreements, Exploitation of Dominance and Monopolization and economic dependence, Predatory pricing and Exceptions to the principle of the restriction of anti-competitive practices –UNCTAD;
- ✓ Control of the economic concentration and the method of studying the economic concentration operations and the examination of the impact borne by competition-OECD;
- ✓ Surveillance methods of anti-competitive practices in the market and the technical methods of investigations in the field of competition- TUNISIA;
- ✓ The economic analysis and the scope of its utilisation in the competition issues-OECD;
- ✓ Delimitation of the reference market in the field of competition issues and The method of preparing investigation reports on competition issues and submission of reports to the competition authorities -Competition Council;
- ✓ The authorities in charge of the implementation of the competition policy: organization and functions with the presentation of some national experiences-TUNISIA/MOROCCO/TURKEY/JORDAN;
- ✓ Case studies relating to competition issues (Alliances/abuse of dominance position over the market...)- TUNISIA/MOROCCO/EGYPT/TURKEY and JORDAN;
- ✓ Decisions of the Competition Authorities and Contestation of the decisions of the Competition Authorities: Procedures, Authorities - TUNISIA/ MOROCCO/ EGYPT and TURKEY;
- ✓ Cooperation among the competition authorities: The developmental prospects and the presentation of some national experiences- TUNISIA-ICDT and UNCTAD.