

**SEMINAR ON**

**“COMPETITION POLICIES AND REGULATIONS IN THE  
MEMBER STATES OF THE ORGANISATION  
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (OIC)”**

Tunis, 22-24 February 2010

**TUNIS DECLARATION**

**DOCUMENTS PRESENTED BY**

**THE ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE**

**TO THE**

**26<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL  
CO-OPERATION OF THE OIC  
(COMCEC)**

**Istanbul – Republic of Turkey  
5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

## TUNIS DECLARATION

- **The Competition Experts** of the OIC Member States; meeting in Tunis from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at the initiative of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the Tunisian Ministry of Commerce and Handicrafts and the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IDB Group) and in the presence of the Representatives of the UNCTAD, the EU and the OECD;
- **Considering the important role** of competition law and policy in economic development;
- **Considering the resolutions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Summit Conference** held in Makkah Al Mukarramah in December 2005, and in particular the OIC Ten Year Plan of Action;
- **Considering that the Competition Law and Policy** are playing a pivotal role confronted with globalisation, notably through the reinforcement of trade and investment, the mobilisation of resources and knowledge exploitation
- **Considering that the competition national policies**, like international cooperation facing the cross-border anti-competitive practices can contribute to the establishment of a real environment propitious to competition and development;
- **Noted with satisfaction the progress** achieved in the enforcement of the competition law and policy in some OIC Member States **and recommend the following:**

### I- RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE:

1. To call on the trade negotiations committee of the TPS/OIC to work out the guidelines in the field of competition in the OIC Member States and submit them to the COMCEC to help those Member States, which are not provided with any law in this field to draw their inspiration from them on the basis of the models of the UNCTAD and the Arab League.
2. To request ICDT in collaboration with IDB to launch a technical assistance programme in the field of competition for the OIC Member States in collaboration with those Member States, which are provided with competences in this field:

This programme will cover the following:

- Assistance to draw up the national competition legislations
- The setting up of institutions
- National capacity building for their enforcement

- Promotion of competition culture

Experts noted with satisfaction, the proposal of Tunisia to make available the Regional Training and Documentation Centre- set up in collaboration with the UNCTAD- to host this kind of activities.

3. To strengthen cooperation and foster the emergence of a network for the exchange of experiences and information between the competition authorities of the OIC Member States;
4. To establish at the level of the OIC, a cooperation platform on competition law and policy that would serve as a discussion and popularization forum of "success stories", which will hold meetings on a periodical basis;
5. To integrate as much as possible the competition dimension in the bilateral and regional trade agreements to facilitate and promote trade and investments exchanges;
6. To draw up a Roster of Experts, Competition Authorities and legislations in the OIC Member States and to put them on the web site of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade;
7. To invite the OIC Member States to actively participate in the proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the UNCTAD to review all the equitable principles and rules agreed upon at multilateral level for the control of restrictive business practices.

## **II/ RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 6<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE SET:**

The General Secretariat of UNCTAD is invited to:

1. Contribute to drawing up a trade cooperation programme with the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), including a technical assistance programme in the field of competition intended to the OIC Member States;
2. Contribute to the future activities of the cooperation platform on competition law and policy in the OIC in order to boost cooperation and the exchange of experiences between the competition Authorities of the OIC Member States;
3. Prepare joint studies on themes relating to competition dimension on the bilateral and regional trade agreements to promote regional integration and trade;
4. Strengthen the technical capacity of the Competition Authorities of the OIC Member States to facilitate a better implementation of the competition law.
5. Carry on the voluntary peer review process at the Future Intergovernmental Group of Experts on competition law and policy;
6. Foster a stronger and wider cooperation with the universities and research institutions working on competition law and policy topics.