

## **COFECE's Board of Commissioners appoints Sergio López Rodríguez as Head of the Investigative Authority and Fidel Gerardo Sierra Aranda as Technical Secretary**

- *Sergio López has been a member of the Commission for 15 years. During this time, he has served as Technical Secretary and Director General for Litigation Affairs, among other positions.*
- *Fidel Sierra, with 9 years at this authority, will be in charge of the Technical Secretariat, position previously held by Sergio López. This area is responsible of reviewing concentrations, among other duties, and of trial-like procedures.*

**Mexico City, June 27 2017.-** The Board of Commissioners of the Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) appointed Sergio López Rodríguez as the new Head of the Investigative Authority and Fidel Gerardo Sierra Aranda as Technical Secretary, who will take office on July 1, 2017. These movements follow Carlos Mena Labarthe's resignation, who leaves his position at the Investigative Authority on the last day of June.

The new Head of the Investigative Authority holds a law degree with honors from the Faculty of Law at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and holds several degrees in competition, *amparo* trials and criminal law. Sergio López has dedicated to competition law for 15 years. In 2001, he joined the former Federal Competition Commission (CFC) as an Assistant Director at the Directorate General for Legal Affairs. He later served as Director, Deputy Director General and Director General at the Directorate General for Litigation Affairs, area responsible for the legal defense of the acts of this autonomous constitutional body before the Federal Judiciary Branch. Since January 2016, he served as Technical Secretary.

The Investigative Authority is COFECE'S unit responsible for conducting investigations for monopolistic practices and unlawful concentrations, and special procedures to determine essential facilities, barriers to competition or lack of effective competition conditions in the markets.

COFECE's Board of Commissioners request Sergio López to maintain the rigor observed in the work developed by the Investigative Authority, as well as to preserve the technical capital built since the creation of this unit with the constitutional reform of 2013. The new

Head said that he will maintain the Investigative Authority's strategic approach and capacity building that have characterized the development of its activities.

Fidel Sierra holds a law degree from Universidad Iberoamericana León, a Master's Degree in Civil and Family Law from the Autonomous University of Barcelona and a Master's Degree in Administrative Law and Regulation from the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM). He joined the competition authority in 2008, as Director of Regulatory Affairs at the Directorate General for Regulated Markets. He also served as Director of Information at the Directorate General for Absolute Monopolistic Practices Investigations and prior to his appointment, he was responsible of the Directorate General for Legal Affairs. Prior to joining this Commission, he worked for Minister José Ramón Cossío Díaz, at the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation.

The Technical Secretary has competence to carry out the concentration analyses notified by the economic agents, economic studies on the competition conditions in the markets and the trial-like procedures in the cases of monopolistic practices.

The Board of Commissioners also expresses its wider recognition of the work carried out by Carlos Mena as Director General for Absolute Monopolistic Practices, Head of Staff and Head of the Investigative Authority, responsibilities in which he demonstrated his technical capacity, fulfillment of objectives and honesty in favor of competition and free markets.

The Commissioners and COFECE's team wish all three of them the greatest success in their professional future.

*Visit the sections [Investigative Authority](#) and [Technical Secretary](#) at COFECE's website [www.cofece.mx](http://www.cofece.mx)*

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*The Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission guarantees competition and free market access. Thus, it contributes to the welfare of people and efficient functioning of markets. Through its work, it seeks better conditions for consumers, greater and better output and services, as well as a "level playing field" for companies.*