

## COFECE, four years serving Mexico

- *Competition policy is key to avoid the negative effects of concentrated markets on the quality and price of goods and services, as well as on the country's productivity.*
- *The Commission enters a new four-year institutional period, committed to further enhance competitive markets in the country, using all the powers conferred by the Federal Economic Competition Law enacted in 2014.*

**Mexico City, September 10, 2017.-** In its four years of existence, the Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) has used its powers as an autonomous constitutional body, to promote better competition conditions in the markets and economic development, to the benefit of Mexican families.

During this period, COFECE has exercised its authority in key markets, informed about barriers to competition due to deficient regulatory frameworks – whether federal, state or municipal –, and has combat anticompetitive practices in relevant markets such as the agri-food, financial sector, pharmaceuticals, energy, transport, public procurement, and international trade. COFECE has also prevented concentrations that could unduly increase prices.

Between September 2013 and August 2017:

- **531 concentrations** – acquisitions, mergers or alliances – were analyzed to identify and prevent those that are likely to harm competition. In this regard, COFECE blocked the concentration between Ienova and Pemex, and conditioned 19 transactions, such as Aeromexico-Delta and Soriana-Comercial Mexicana.
- **58 proceedings** for anticompetitive practices, unlawful concentrations, barriers to competition or to determine competition conditions in a market were conducted. 13 were concluded with fines totaling 4 thousand 17 million Mexican pesos. It is worth noting the investigations made in the markets of poultry, sugar and Afores (retirement fund managers).
- **233 regulatory frameworks or draft laws were analyzed. 48 opinions** were issued, when it was found that these could unduly impede competition.

- **Market studies** to assess competition conditions in financial markets, the agri-food sector, off-patent medicines, and the retail gasoline and diesel markets, were conducted. Through these, the structural and behavioral elements of economic agents, that could be hindering competition, were analyzed and followed up with diverse recommendations to address said issues.

Outcomes from the judicial review of COFECE's proceedings show the strengthening of the Commission. During these four years, specialized courts in competition matters have upheld COFECE's decisions in 8 out of 10 cases.

Competition policy is key to the country's productivity, to promote entrepreneurship and economic growth in Mexico. It is also fundamental to avoid negative effects of concentrated markets on the quality and price of goods and services. The Commission, inaugurates this next four-year institutional period, committed to further enhance competitive markets in the country, using all the powers conferred by the Federal Economic Competition Law enacted in 2014.

[See our statistics from 2013 to 2017 #4añosCOFECE \(in Spanish\)](#)

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**MORE COMPETITION FOR A STRONGER MEXICO**

*The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. Through this, COFECE contributes to consumer welfare and efficient functioning of the markets. Through its work, it seeks better conditions for consumers, greater output and better services and a "level playing field" for companies.*