

COFECE notified participants in the market for eggs of their probable responsibility of monopolistic practices

- *The investigation initiated in March 2015 and ended in November 2017.*
- *Once the investigative stage concluded, the Investigative Authority presented a Statement of Probable Responsibility which states that sufficient evidentiary elements exist to presume that the notified agents carried out unlawful activities.*
- *During the following procedure, known as the trial-like procedure, the notified parties may address COFECE's allegations.*

Mexico City, March 19, 2018.- The Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) notified diverse economic agents for their probable responsibility in the execution of absolute monopolistic practices in the national market for the production, distribution and retail of eggs.

This investigation, filed under IO-004-2015, initiated on March 25, 2015 and concluded on November 3, 2017. In that regard, the Investigative Authority indicated in the Statement of Probable Responsibility that they had knowledge of possible acts that derived in agreements, arrangements or combinations of these between competing economic agents, with the purpose or effect of exchanging information to fix, increase, agree upon or manipulate the price of eggs.

The notification of the Statement of Probable Responsibility initiates the stage known as trial-like procedure, conducted by the Commission's Technical Secretariat. During this stage, the involved economic agents may address COFECE's allegations and submit evidence related to the allegations presented against them. Once the facts have been addressed, the evidence processed and the corresponding arguments presented. COFECE's Board of Commissioners may issue a resolution once all defense arguments have been heard and all evidence has been analyzed.

According to the Federal Economic Competition Law, if the existence of absolute monopolistic practices is proven, the economic agents may be fined with up to 10% of their



income. Individuals who contributed, encouraged or induced the commission of such unlawful conducts may be fined with up to 180 thousand UMAS “Units of Measure and Update” (one UMA is equivalent to 80.60 pesos).

See in Spanish: [What is an absolute monopolistic practice?](#) and [What are Notifications of Probable Responsibility and what are these done for?](#)

– 000 –

MORE COMPETITION FOR A STRONGER MEXICO

The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. Through this, it contributes to consumer welfare and the 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.

