

COFECE issues Regulatory Provisions of the Leniency and Immunity Program

- *The Regulatory Provisions are legally binding and aimed at providing tat providing greater legal certainty on procedures related to the Leniency and Immunity Program*

Mexico City, March 4, 2020.- The Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) published today, in the Federal Official Gazette, the new *Regulatory Provisions of the Leniency and Immunity Program* (Provisions) to further strengthen the program as an investigative tool and to fulfil its purpose of detecting and investigating absolute monopolistic practices.

The new Provisions provide more predictability and transparency to the Leniency and Immunity Program as they:

- Provide clarity when an application is received and on the rights and obligations of those adhering to the Program.
- Provide key information for applicants to know their position in the queue for all the applicants.
- Establish the steps to follow when the Commission decides that conditional benefits of applicant to the Program should be removed.
- Provisions are legally binding, so they provide sounder legal basis.

The draft Provisions were subjected to a public consultation in 2019. With this, elements that Economic Agents deem essential for an efficient Program we identified.

The Leniency and Immunity Program allows economic agents that have or had participated in absolute monopolistic practices to fully and continuously collaborate with the Commission and, in exchange, obtain a reduction of up to 100% of the corresponding economic sanction, as well as criminal immunity.

Absolute monopolistic practices are agreements, arrangements or information exchanges between competing economic agents with the purpose of manipulating prices, restricting supply, allocate markets or coordinate bids in tenders.

See the [*Immunity and Leniency Program brochure*](#) (in Spanish) and the new [*Regulatory Provisions of the Immunity and Leniency Program*](#) (in Spanish)

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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.