

North American antitrust enforcers reaffirm the importance of economic competition to promote the welfare of the region

- *The competition authorities of Mexico, Canada, and the United States held meetings to strengthen regional cooperation on economic competition policy and its enforcement for the benefit of the population.*
- *During the meeting, the importance of having competition authorities with technical autonomy to ensure the efficient functioning of markets, innovation, inclusive economic development, and the welfare of consumers in the three countries was highlighted.*

Mexico City, January 23, 2024 - The heads of the Federal Economic Competition Commission of Mexico (Cofece), the Competition Bureau of Canada, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), and the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ), both from the United States, met today in Mexico City to discuss the main advances and opportunities for trilateral cooperation in matters of competition policy and its enforcement in the region. They also discussed shared visions, joint strategies, and the tools at their disposal to address the challenges posed by both traditional and digital markets.

As in previous years, the meeting of the North American competition agency leaders was held based on the cooperation agreements signed between the governments of Mexico, the United States, and Canada on the application of their respective competition laws. On this occasion, the meeting was attended by Andrea Marván, Chair of Cofece; Matthew Boswell, Commissioner of Canada's Competition Bureau; Lina Khan, Chair of the FTC; and Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Kanter from DOJ's Antitrust Division.

During the meeting, the heads of the competition agencies reaffirmed the importance of regional cooperation, considering the growing integration of our economies, as well as the crucial work that competition authorities with technical autonomy carry out for the benefit of the population by promoting competitive markets as well as innovation and entrepreneurship. This work, they agreed, makes them essential public institutions for building fairer and more inclusive economies.

During her welcome remarks, Chair, Andrea Marván, emphasized that the new phase of competition policy promoted by Cofece will deepen international collaboration, with the objective of exchanging best practices and information that lead to higher sanctions against economic agents that harm consumers and to generate tangible benefits for the population.

Chair Khan of the FTC noted that "this annual trilateral meeting with our peer agencies in charge of law enforcement allows is to exchange experiences and knowledge, thus strengthening our performance in the promotion of fair competition and the protection of the American public against monopolistic and anticompetitive practices".

Likewise, Assistant Attorney General Kanter mentioned that "the competition law agencies of Canada, Mexico, and the United States share the common goal to preserve and protect fair and lawful competition. I am grateful for the opportunity to meet with our fellow enforcers

and discuss opportunities to promote competition and enhance enforcement in North America.”

Finally, Commissioner Matthew Boswell noted that securing the benefits of a competitive marketplace, for everyone, requires the right laws, tools, and resources. He affirmed that the Canadian Competition Bureau will continue working closely with agency counterparts in Mexico and the United States, and around the world. "Business is global, and the effort to protect and promote competition must be too."

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MORE COMPETITION FOR A STRONGER MEXICO

The Federal Economic Competition Commission safeguards competition and free market access.

Through its work, it seeks better conditions for consumers, that more services are supplied with higher quality and that there is a “level-playing-field” for companies.