



# AGENDA

## UNDERSTANDING COMPETITIVE NEUTRALITY

Webinar 24 November 2021  
10:00 am, Beirut Time (EET)

It is a fundamental principle of competition law and policy that firms should compete on the merits and should not benefit from undue advantages for example due to their ownership or nationality.

Government actions can sometimes prevent, restrict or distort competition within a market. They can set procurement/tax rules or regulatory regimes putting private companies at a disadvantage compared to state-controlled or supported firms, or yet, they can assign market regulatory functions to firms that currently or potentially compete on the same markets.

Ensuring a level playing field is therefore key to enable competition to work properly and deliver benefits to consumers and the wider economy. This webinar will explain what competitive neutrality is, why it is important to economic growth and creating attractive business environments while also providing case studies from across the region.

10:00 am – 10:10am Opening

**Dr. Mahmoud Momtaz**, Chairman of the Egyptian Competition Authority

10:10 am – 10:40 am Primer on Competitive Neutrality

**Prof. Arsenio M. Balisacan**, *Chairman, Philippines Competition Commission*

**Prof. Deborah Healy**, *Professor, University of South Wales, Law and a Director of the Herbert Smith Freehills China International Business and Economic Law Centre*

Discussion

10:40 am – 11:40 am Sharing international experiences and best practice

**Ms. Teresa Moreira**, Rotational Officer in Charge, Division on International Trade and Commodities and Head, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD

**Ms. Nathalie Khaled**, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA

**Mr. Wouter Meester**, Competition Expert, OECD

**Ms. Federica Maiorano**, Senior Competition Expert

**Ms. Alanoud Alfahad**, Director of Monopolistic and Anti-Competitive Investigations Department in Kuwait

**Mr. Mohammad Almaziad**, Economic Specialist, General Authority for Competition in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Discussion

11:40 am – 11:50 am Final reflections and closing

**Prof. Frederic Jenny**, Chair, OECD Competition Committee

**Dr. Mahmoud Momtaz**, Chairman of the Egyptian Competition Authority