



جهاز حماية المنافسة
Egyptian Competition Authority

Competition Law and Policy During and in the Aftermath of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Egypt's Experience

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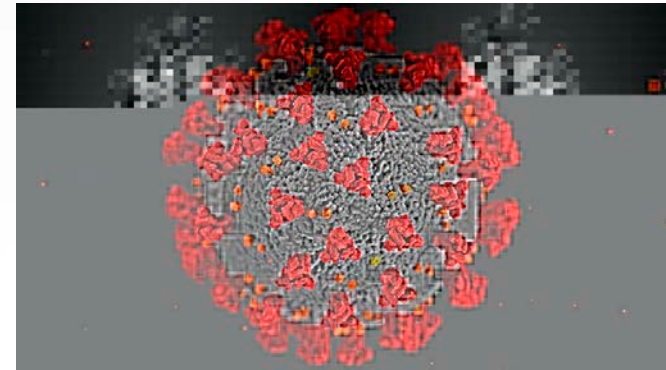
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Introduction: The interplay of CLP and COVID-19



Impact of COVID-19 on the Egyptian Economy

- Contrast between the formal labour market and the informal sector
 - ❑ Mass layoffs
 - ❑ Struggling small and medium enterprises
- Demand shocks and supply chain obstructions
 - ❑ Medical products
 - ❑ Food supply chains
- Impact on healthcare systems
- Impact on investment and trade
 - ❑ Due to reduced incentives for foreign direct investment, there is a strong need to strengthen domestic supply chains
- Impact on tourism
- Impact on remittances from abroad



ECA's efforts in remedying the adverse effects of the pandemic

- Habitually addressing supply chain and importation restrictions
- Offering ad-hoc guidance and preliminary competition assessments on horizontal cooperation agreements
- Closely monitoring any considerable price changes in the market
- Clarifying the appraisal process for efficiencies in high risk sectors during the crisis
- Using advocacy powers under Art. 11 ECL
- Spreading competition culture in a general sense



Moving towards quick and sustainable economic recovery

- Egypt's first ex-ante merger control regime
 - Careful assessment of failing firm defences
 - Public interest considerations
- ECA's public procurement guidelines
- Monitoring horizontal cooperation
 - Increasing production capacity utilization and labour retention
- Striking a balance between under-enforcement and over-enforcement
- Strengthening domestic supply chains
 - Addressing the likelihood of foreign takeovers to endanger competition and divert supply chains





Thank you!