

CCP trains Afghan officials on competition law

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ISLAMABAD
OUR STAFF REPORTER

A two-day training workshop on 'Competition and Consumer Protection' for the officials of the Afghanistan's Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Afghanistan Investment and Reconstruction Task Force, and Afghanistan's Competition and Consumer Protection Directorate (CCPD), was held at the Competition Commission Pakistan (CCP).

The consultative experience-sharing programme was organized by the US Department of Commerce, through its Commercial Law Development Program, in partnership with the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and CCP. This was the first ever such regional training on Competition Law, which was conducted by CCP for the Afghan officials.

Ms. Rahat Kaunan Hassan, Chairperson of CCP, while welcoming the delegates, appreciated Afghanistan's efforts to introduce a modern competition regime and stated that initiatives that promote regional cooperation over competition matters will benefit all participating countries.

In his introductory remarks, Hafizullah Walirahimi, General Director of CCPD, highlighted the steps Afghanistan was taking to modernize its competition laws and

hoped that a contemporary regime would be introduced soon in Afghanistan. Joe Yang from the US Department of Commerce and Mr. Timothy Hughes from the Federal Trade Commission thanked CCP for hosting this workshop and for sharing its experience with their Afghan counterparts.

Interactive sessions on various organizational and managerial issues faced by new competition agencies were held. Chairperson Rahat Kaunan Hassan in her various presentations highlighted the numerous organizational, administrative, and financial challenges faced by CCP since its inception in 2007 and explained how she and her team surmounted these challenges and created a viable competition agency that is well respected all over the world in a short span. She talked in detail about choosing the right board members and staff, creating internal administrative and financial procedures, and developing competent human resources. She discussed the need for having a regional model for competition regimes drawing from the strengths of relevant competition agencies. She also emphasized that new competition agencies need to have administrative, financial and operational autonomy and the right enforcement and advocacy tools for the successful implementation of the contemporary competition laws.

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CCP holds workshop on competition regime for Afghan officials

RECORDER REPORT

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This is the first ever such regional training on Competition Law, which was conducted by CCP for Afghan officials.

Appreciating Afghanistan's efforts to introduce a modern competition regime, Chairperson

of CCP Rahat Kaunan Hassan stated that initiatives that promote regional cooperation over competition matters would benefit all participating countries.

Director-General of Afghan CCPD Hafizullah Walirahimi highlighted steps being taken by Afghanistan to modernise its competition laws and expressed the hope that his country would soon introduce a contemporary regime.

Joe Yang of the US Department of Commerce and Timothy Hughes of the Federal Trade Commission thanked CCP for hosting the workshop and sharing experience with their Afghan counterparts.

Interactive sessions on various issues faced by new competition agencies were held.

Chairperson of CCP Rahat Kaunan Hassan highlighted numerous organisational, administrative, and financial challenges faced by CCP since its inception



ISLAMABAD: The participants of a two-day training workshop for the officials of Afghan Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Afghan Investment and Reconstruction Task Force, and Afghan Competition and Consumer Protection Directorate (CCPD), organized by Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), here on Friday.

in 2007 and explained how she and her team surmounted these challenges and created a viable competition agency that is well respected all over the world in a short span.

She talked in detail about choosing the right board members and staff, creating internal administrative and financial procedures, and developing compe-

tent human resources.

She discussed the need for having a regional model for competition regimes drawing from the strengths of relevant competition agencies. She also emphasised that new competition agencies needed to have administrative, financial and operational autonomy and the right enforcement and advocacy

tools for the successful implementation of the contemporary competition laws.

Dr Joseph Wilson, Member CCP, gave a presentation on overview of the organizational and management structure of CCP. Dr Wilson also spoke about the integrated agency model – one being followed by CCP – where a "single spe-

cialised agency undertakes investigative, enforcement and adjudicative functions" and how such a model was best-suited for new agencies.

He also conducted a session on the need for having a merger control regime, besides highlighting various components of the merger regime in Pakistan.

Director General (Corporate Affairs) CCP Ikramul Haque Qureshi gave a detailed presentation on preventing and dealing with corruption.

Qureshi highlighted the need for internal checks and balances and policies to reduce corruption, but cautioned against using allegations of corruption as a tool for vilification and victimisation.

Others presenters included: Shaista Bano, Director General (Cartels and Trade Abuses) and Syed Umair Javed, Joint Director (Cartels and Trade Abuses) on 'Investigations to Enforcement: the Process from

A-Z'; Nadia Nabi, Director (Cartels and Trade Abuses) on 'Establishing Reliable and Credible Resource Materials'; Ahmed Qadir and Asfandyar Khattak, Directors Advocacy, on 'Public Awareness and Outreach to Private Sector'.

The participants of the workshop said that they had been exposed to many new areas of Competition Law which would be useful for the new competition regime in Afghanistan.

Timothy Hughes of the US-based FTC said that cross-border cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan was highly encouraging and would go a long way in establishing long-term relationship between the two countries.

Joe Yang of the US Department of Commerce thanked CCP for its experience-sharing with Afghan officials, which will prove to be useful in their capacity-building.

CCP advocates autonomy for competition agencies

Anti-trust watchdog trains Afghan officials in competition laws

OUR CORRESPONDENT
 ISLAMABAD

Competition Commission of Pakistan Chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan has emphasised that new competition agencies should have administrative, financial and operational autonomy and the right enforcement and advocacy tools for successful implementation of competition laws.

She was speaking at a two-day training workshop on 'Competition and Consumer Protection' at the CCP for officials of Afghanistan's Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Afghanistan Investment and Reconstruction Task Force and Afghanistan's Competition and Consumer Protection Directorate (CCPD).

Hassan underlined the need for having a regional model for competition regimes drawing from strengths of relevant competition agencies.

In her presentation, she

highlighted the numerous organisational, administrative, and financial challenges faced by the CCP since its inception in 2007 and how she and her team surmounted these challenges.

She spoke about choosing the right board members and staff, creating internal administrative and financial procedures, and developing competent human resources.

Praising Afghanistan's efforts to introduce a modern competition regime, she said initiatives that promoted regional cooperation in competition matters would benefit all participating countries.

CCPD General Director Hafizullah Walirahimi discussed the steps Afghanistan was taking to modernise its competition laws and hoped that a contemporary regime would be introduced in Afghanistan soon.

Timothy Hughes from the US Federal Trade Commission said cross-border cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan was highly encouraging and would go a long way in establishing a long-term relationship between the two countries.

Hassan underlined the need for having a regional model for competition regimes drawing from strengths of relevant competition agencies

Joe Yang from the US Department of Commerce said the US was working with the Afghan government in many areas and this workshop was part of the programme of development in Afghanistan.

CCP member Dr Joseph Wilson spoke about the integrated agency model where a single specialised agency undertook investigative, enforcement and adjudicative functions and how such a model was best suited for new agencies.

CCP Director General (Corporate Affairs) Ikramul Haque Qureshi stressed the need for internal checks and balances and policies that reduced the avenues for corruption. He also cautioned against using allegations of corruption as a tool for vilification and revenge.

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Competition law

Afghans seek Pakistan's help

By A Reporter

ISLAMABAD, June 7: As the Afghan economy is moving towards the phase of modernisation and expansion, the need for a strong and effective competitive regime in the country has compelled the relevant authorities in Afghanistan to seek Pakistan's cooperation.

"Promoting regional cooperation on competition matters will be beneficial for all the participating countries," said Rahat Kaunain Hassan, chairperson of the Competition Commission Pakistan (CCP), at the start of a regional training on Competition Law, conducted by the commission for Afghan officials.

She went on to appreciate Afghanistan for introducing a modern competition regime.

The two-day training workshop is being conducted by the CCP at its head office. Officials of Afghanistan's Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Afghanistan Investment and Reconstruction Task Force, and Afghanistan's Competition and Consumer Protection Directorate (CCPD) are in Pakistan to get training on 'Competition and Consumer Protection'.

In her presentations, Ms. Hassan highlighted the numerous organisational, administrative, and financial challenges faced by the CCP since its inception in 2007. She explained how she and her team surmounted these challenges and created a viable competition agency that became well respected all

over the world in a short span.

"It is important to choose right board members and staff, create internal administrative and financial procedures and develop competent human resource," she told the visiting guests.

The need for having a regional model for competition regimes drawing strengths of relevant competition agencies was discussed so that the competition laws remain similar in South Asia and surrounding areas.

"I suggest that the new competition agencies need to have administrative, financial and operational autonomy and the right enforcement and advocacy tools for the successful implementation of the contemporary competition laws," she said.

Hafizullah Walirahimi, General Director of CCPD, highlighted the steps Afghanistan was taking to modernise its competition laws and said that the contemporary regime would soon be introduced in Afghanistan.

Interactive sessions on various organisational and managerial issues faced by new competition agencies were held during the training session. Dr Joseph Wilson, Member CCP, informed about the integrated agency model - as being followed by the CCP - where a "single specialised agency undertakes investigative, enforcement and adjudicative functions" and how such a model is best-suited for

new agencies.

He also conducted a session on the need for having a merger control regime and took the participants through the various components of the merger regime in Pakistan and discussed the two-phase merger review process in detail.

While giving detailed presentation on preventing and dealing with corruption, Ikram-ul-Haque Qureshi, Director General (Corporate Affairs) CCP, stressed upon the need for internal checks and balances and policies which reduced the avenues for corruption. He also cautioned against using corruption allegations as a tool for vilification and revenge.

Others presenters included Shaista Bano, Director General (Cartels and Trade Abuses) and Syed Umair Javed, Joint Director (Cartels and Trade Abuses) on 'Investigations to Enforcement: the Process from A-Z'; Ms. Nadia Nabi, Director (Cartels and Trade Abuses) on 'Establishing Reliable and Credible Resource Materials' Ahmed Qadir and Asfandyar Khattak, Directors Advocacy, on 'Public Awareness and Outreach to Private Sector'.

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جہانِ پاکِستان

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اسلام آباد: مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کے ہیڈ کوارٹرز میں منعقدہ تربیتی ورکشاپ کے اختتام پر ورکشاپ میں شریک افغانستان کے افسران کا مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کی چیئر پرسن راحت کوئین حسن کے ساتھ گروپ فوٹو

اعلیٰ افغان افسران کے لئے سی سی پی کی دوروزہ کانفرنس ختم

اسلام آباد (نیوز رپورٹر) افغانستان کی وزارت تجارت تعمیر نو، انڈسٹریز اور سرمایہ کاری کے اعلیٰ افسران کے لئے مسابقتی کمیشن آف پاکستان کی دوروزہ کانفرنس جس کو یہاں ختم ہوئی۔ افغانستان نے پاکستان سے درخواست کی تھی کہ اس کی مختلف وزارتوں کے افسران کو پاکستان کا مسابقتی کمیشن تربیتی صنعت و حرفت، کاروبار و مسابقتی قوانین اور صارفین کے مفادات کے تحفظ کے حوالے سے تربیت فراہم کرے۔ کمیشن کی جانب سے افغان افسران کے لئے دوروزہ تربیتی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد کیا گیا جس میں کمیشن کے ماہرین نے دوست ملک کے افسران کو مختلف شعبوں کے متعلق بین الاقوامی معیار کے مطابق تربیت فراہم کی۔