

ACF-2023 List of Speakers and Bios

Day 1-Session 1: Enhancing the Effectiveness of competition authorities in Developing and least developed countries



Moderator



Abdulaziz bin Abdullah Al-Zoom

Chief Executive Officer of The General Authority for Competition

His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz bin Abdullah Al-Zoum, CEO of the General Authority for Competition since 2018. He holds a PhD in Applied Economics from the University of Nebraska in the United States.

His Excellency Dr. Al-Zoum held several positions in the Saudi Capital Market Authority, including Director of the Research Department at the Capital Market Authority.



Frédéric Jenny

Chairman of the OECD Competition Committee, Emeritus Professor at ESSEC Paris Business School

Frederic JENNY, professor of Economics at ESSEC Business School and Hauser Global Professor of Antitrust at New York University Law School, holds a Ph.D. in Economics (Harvard University, 1975), a Doctorate in Economics (University of Paris, 1977) and an MBA degree (ESSEC Business School,1966).

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He is the Chairman of the OECD Competition Committee. He was Non-Executive Director of the Office of Fair Trading (UK) (2007-2014), Judge on the French Supreme Court (Cour de cassation, Economic Commercial and Financial Chamber 2004 - 2012), Vice Chair of the French Competition Authority (1993-2004) and President of the WTO Working Group on Trade and Competition (1994-2003) He was visiting professor at Northwestern University (1978), Keio University (1984), University of Capetown (1991), Haifa University (2012), University College London (2005-2010), New York University (2014 and 2017) and University of Melbourne (2016-2018). He has written extensively about trade, competition and economic development and has advised many developing countries on competition and trade issues.



Nathalie Khaled

Coordinator of the Competition and Consumer Protection Project, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA

Nathalie Khaled, Economic Affairs Officer at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Currently, she is leading the implementation of several regional and national projects in ESCWA, among them: Improving competition and protecting consumers in the Arab region; Enhancing Integrated National Development Planning in the Arab Region; The Arab Business Environment Legislative Framework. She is also a facilitator at e-Cornell University for programs on Leadership in The Public Sector. In 2018, ES-CWA awarded her the «Munasara Gender Equality Award», in recognition of her efforts to systematically mainstream a gender perspective into major ESCWA publications.

She served in the United Nations peacekeeping mission with UNIFIL before starting her career at ESCWA. Prior to her journey at the United Nations, Ms. Khaled worked as a quality management consultant and auditor for the American Management Association. She is an ISO-certified consultant.

She has a graduate certificate from Cornell University in Public Sector Leadership, and she holds a master's degree in business administration from the Lebanese American University. She has many publications and studies related to economic and social developments in the Arab region and her contribution to the development of several online courses.

Ms. Khaled is also a facilitator at e-Cornell University for leadership programs in the public sector. She is leading the implementation of The Annual Competition Forum for the Arab region. Furthermore, Ms. Khaled also led the production of the Arab Legislation Portal and the Arab National Development Planning Portal and contributed to the development of Economic and Policy Simulation tools.

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Willard Mwemba

Director, and Chief Executive Officer of the COMESA Competition Commission

Willard Mwemba is the Director and Chief Executive Officer of the COMESA Competition Commission. The COMESA Competition Commission is responsible for both Competition regulation and consumer protection in the Common Market.

Prior to that, he was Head of the Mergers and Acquisitions Division at the same institution for 7 years. Dr Mwemba previously worked for the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission in Zambia for 7 years where he rose through the ranks to become Director of Mergers and Monopolies until he left in 2013. During his employment at the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission in Zambia, he also worked in the Consumer Division where he handled several cases that had a direct impact on consumers especially the poor.

With more than 17 years of experience in competition and consumer law enforcement, Dr. Mwemba has been key in the enforcement of the COMESA Competition Regulations in the Common Market as well as in the development of competition and consumer protection laws in some Member States. He drove the process of drafting, inter alia, the COMESA Competition Mergers Operations Manual, Merger Investigation Procedures, COMESA Merger Assessment Guidelines, and amendments to the COMESA Merger Notification Form 12. Further, Dr. Mwemba was instrumental and led the team that amended the Rules on the COMESA Merger Notification Thresholds and Merger Filing Fees. Dr. Mwemba continues to play a key role in the development of competition and consumer protection laws, guidelines, and operational manuals in the Member States and provides support to other Regional Economic Communities in the development of such enforcement tools. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Competition Training Centre for the Middle East and Africa.

He has written extensively about competition law and has spoken at several high profile and he is usually invited as a guest lecturer on the subject at Universities and Colleges in Zambia and beyond.

Dr. Mwemba holds several qualifications among them two bachelor's degrees with specialization in Law and Economics from the University of Zambia, a Master's degree in European Union Competition Law from Kings College: London, and a Ph.D. in Competition Law from the University of Cape Town.

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Mahmoud Momtaz

Chairman of the Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA), and the President of the Arab Competition Network (ACN)

Mahmoud Momtaz is currently the Chairman of the Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA) since January 2021 and the President of the Arab Competition Network (ACN) since March 2022.

Dr. Momtaz serves as a Commissioner at the COMESA Competition Commission, Chairman of the Committee of Initial Determination at the COMESA Competition Commission, board member at the Gas Regulatory Authority, the Supreme Council for Media Regulation, Egyptian Electric Utility & Consumer Protection Regulatory Agency, as well as a member at the Advisory Committee of Anti-Dumping, Subsidy and Safeguard.

Prior to assuming his position at ECA, Dr. Momtaz served as a Private Sector Development Specialist at the World Bank's headquarters in Washington D.C. where he was mainly responsible for several competition policy projects as well as private sector development in the MENA region and Southeast Asia. Additionally, Dr. Momtaz has actively participated in the reformulation of the competition laws and enforcement regimes in several Middle Eastern countries and conducted several trainings to numerous stakeholders.

Previously Dr. Momtaz was the Head of the Technical Investigation Department at the ECA.

On the academic front, Dr. Momtaz is a board member at the Faculty of Law - the British University in Egypt (BUE), and a lecturer of Competition Law & Economics.

Dr. Mahmoud holds a PhD in Competition Law and Economics from the University of Hamburg, Germany, and a Master's degree in International Business from the German University in Cairo.



Babatunde Irukera

Executive Vice Chairman, CEO of the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, Nigeria

Babatunde Irukera is the Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC). He is responsible for the daily management and leadership of the Commission in fulfilling its mandate to promote market

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competition, protect consumers, and secure remedies when consumer rights are violated. His record of advocacy and representation in competition and consumer issues is exceptional and provides the clarity that both the Commission, and industry need in addressing issues of customer service/protection, promoting a level playing field in the Nigerian marketplace, and ensuring regulatory stability.

He has been in active legal practice for over three decades. His varied experience ranges from being In-house Counsel to General Counsel, Managing Partner in a law firm, and advising senior government officials as well as key government institutions. Over this diverse career, Babatunde gained considerable experience in transactions, competition law, consumer protection, civil rights and commercial litigation, regulatory work, government relations, and practice management.

Key areas of significant litigation and resolution experience for Babatunde include medical malpractice. He was key counsel in the prosecution, negotiation, and settlement of a large multi-jurisdictional case involving a major pharmaceutical company and the conduct of a clinical trial that resulted in injuries. He also played vital roles in sector-related consumer protection advancements including advising the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority with respect to its role in sector consumer protection. He led the initiative in developing current aviation consumer protection regulations as well as the Passenger Bill of Rights. He also led the team that revised existing aviation economic regulations and superintended a comprehensive regulatory and parliamentary investigation into anti-competitive behavior by foreign airlines. He has also provided capacity-building and advisory services to government institutions and other clients with respect to competition/antitrust issues. He co-authors the Nigerian chapters in a range of competition/antitrust related widely regarded international publications.

His unique combination of advocacy, commercial practice, and reputation provides the required mutual industry/regulatory assurance and balance for a vibrant and robust competition and consumer protection regime that promotes business stability and investment, as well as consumer satisfaction and confidence.

Babatunde was admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of Nigeria in 1990 and before the Washington State Supreme Court in 1996.

