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## ARAB COMPETITION FORUM

[ACF] – 24-25 MAY 2022 [Muscat, Sultanate of Oman]



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Sultanate of Oman  
سلطنة عمان  
وزارة التجارة والصناعة وترويج الاستثمار  
Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion



OECD



International Trade Centre

### Provisional agenda

Day 2. Wednesday 25 May 2022	
8.30 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 – 10:15 a.m. (Muscat Time – UTC+4) Meeting venue: Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre in Muscat  <i>Format: Open session / Hybrid</i>	<b>Session I. Competition in the Online Market: E-commerce and Digitalization</b>  <b>Session coordinators: ITC and OECD</b>  Experts will present best practices and lessons learned to build sound competition policies in view of the various competition challenges emerging from the online market. Competition authorities from the Arab region and beyond will present specific country case studies on the topic.
10:15 – 10:30 a.m.	<b>Coffee break</b>
10.30 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. (Muscat Time – UTC+4) Meeting venue: Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre in Muscat  <i>Format: Open session / Hybrid</i>	<b>Session II. Assessment of Institutional Capacity in Competition</b>  <b>Session coordinator: OECD</b>  This session highlights the main institutional challenges faced by competition authorities in the Arab region and brings forward case studies and methodologies to better identify institutional gaps in the implementation of competition law and policy.
11:45 p.m.–1:00 p.m. (Muscat Time – UTC+4) Meeting venue: Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre in Muscat  <i>Format: Open session / Hybrid</i>	<b>Session III: Competition Law and Policy and SMEs</b>  <b>Session coordinator: UNCTAD</b>  Competition policy is essential for a level playing field that provides opportunities for micro, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and promotes increased competitiveness and consumer welfare. In this session, experts will introduce best practices and specific guidance to promote SME competitiveness and assistance following the COVID-19 crisis.
1:00 – 2.00 p.m.	<b>Lunch break</b>

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<p>2:00 p.m. – 2.45 p.m. (Muscat Time – UTC+4) Meeting venue: Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre in Muscat <i>Format: Open session / Hybrid</i></p>	<p><b>Session IV: Competition Provisions in Trade Agreements</b> <b>Session coordinator: UNCTAD</b> During this session, experts will highlight the importance of assigning adequate competition provisions in trade agreements and set out best practices for the implementation of preliminary reforms to maximize the utilization of trade agreements.</p>
<p>2:45 – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
<p>3:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Muscat Time – UTC+4) Meeting venue: Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre in Muscat <i>Format: Closed session / Hybrid</i></p>	<p><b>Discussion and Closing Session</b> <b>Session coordinators: ESCWA and partners</b> The closing session will include a discussion on future support provided by ESCWA and its partners to member States in competition policy and enforcement. Participants will agree on the main intervention areas needed to advance competition in the Arab region.</p>