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**DIRECTORATE FOR FINANCIAL AND ENTERPRISE AFFAIRS  
COMPETITION COMMITTEE**

**Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum**

**Session I: Competition and Productivity: Linkages, measurement and Policy  
Implementation – Call for contributions**

7-8 October 2025

This document is circulated in preparation of the discussion under Session I of the OECD-IDB Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum (LACCF) that will take place during 7-8 October 2025 in Asunción, Paraguay.

Delegates are invited to submit their written contributions to the Secretariat by **Friday 29 August 2025**.

In case you need additional information related to this session, please contact:

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## *Session I: Competition and Productivity*

### *– Call for Contributions –*

1. This year's OECD-IDB Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum (LACCF) will feature a session on "Competition and Productivity". This document provides some background information on the topic and invites delegates to make a written submission to be discussed during the session. **The background notes provided for the session are confidential and should not be used for citation or any other purpose as they are part of a future publication of the IDB (DIA 2025) coming in the next few months.**
2. Latin America's and Caribbean productivity indicators lag behind most of other regions of the world. Underperformance is a result of multiple structural constraints, including informality, excessive regulations, complex and distortive taxation and poor governance. The gap is bigger in commerce, manufacturing and services which employ most of the workers of the region. Modern theory on competitiveness has suggested a correlation between the levels of rivalry in domestic markets and the productivity performance of the economy. Yet, the protection of rivalry for productivity purposes has not been an explicit strategy of economic policies throughout the region. One pillar of such a strategy is antitrust enforcement, aimed at preventing practices by firms that undermine competition. Another pillar is regulatory reform, aimed at lowering unnecessary barriers to entry. Country efforts have been mixed. For example, since the partial implementation of the Washington Consensus in the 1990's most of the region's jurisdictions have adopted and updated their antitrust apparatus based on legal transplants from the US Sherman Act and subsequent implementation by the US Supreme Court, and the EUs development on the implementation of articles of the EU Treaty as interpreted by the European Court of Justice and national courts. However, it has yet to be demonstrated that the results of the implementation of these laws and regulations has fundamentally increased levels of competition.
3. Building on these discussions, this LACCF session will bring these aspects together to focus specifically on how competition law and policy can advance the broader goal of productivity increase in the region while improving the lives of people, update the tools to measure the strength and contestability of markets, and assess the performance of Latin American and Caribbean antitrust enforcement in pursuing that goal. This may include, depending on the contributions received from delegates: (i) your views on the relationship between competition, productivity and inequality; (ii) Measuring market power: markups analysis in antitrust enforcement an advocacy efforts, and (iii) and how successful has been the performance of antitrust agencies and other regulators in supporting the development of competitive markets?
4. As in past years, these discussions in this session will be greatly enhanced by written contributions, which should be sent to the OECD Secretariat by Friday 29 August 2025. In order to assist you with the preparation of your contribution, the Annex includes a number of questions on which you may wish to focus on and a suggested bibliography of 3 background notes. The list in the Annex is not exhaustive, and you are encouraged to raise and address other issues in your submissions and during the discussion.
5. The session will be exclusive for agencies participating in the LACCF (in person or virtually) and will not be open to the public nor the press.

## **Annex A - Suggested questions for written contributions to Session I on Competition and Productivity**

This Annex provides a list of questions for consideration in preparing your written contribution. A contribution does not need to cover every listed question, and you may wish to address issues not listed here. You are encouraged to refer to relevant cases or advocacy initiatives where appropriate to illustrate your answers. Please prepare your contribution as an integrated essay rather than a list of answers to questions

### ***A. The role of Competition Policy in addressing the broader question of productivity and equality goals of the economy.***

- Is there any formal link in your jurisdiction between the use of competition law and policy and the economic policies addressing productivity increases?
- Is there any discussion with the government on the role of competition law and policy as part of the competitiveness agenda of the country?
- How do competitive markets improve the lives of people and performance of firms?

### ***B. Measuring rivalry and market power in market analysis and antitrust enforcement***

- What is the role of markup analysis in your agency while addressing market power assessments?
- What methodologies are used in this effort?

### ***C. Antitrust performance in advancing productivity goals.***

- Are there internal and external evaluations on the performance of your agency in advancing the goals of the law and the policy
- Do you see progress in the effectiveness of competition law and policy in your jurisdiction towards achieving more competitive markets benefiting both consumers and firm productivity growth?
- Do you see increased awareness and activity within competition agencies or in other regulatory agencies to assess, monitor, and eventually reduce the effects of regulation on competition?