



Cofece-007-2023

Cofece issues the Guidelines for the use of electronic means during the investigation, the sequel to the procedure, the verification and incidents processed before the Commission.

- These will have permanent validity, unlike those issued previously due to the emergency derived from COVID-19.
- These establish that, once the agents opt for the processing of proceedings and notifications through electronic means, this means cannot be changed, with some exceptions.

Mexico City, March 2, 2023.- The Federal Economic Competition Commission (Cofece or Commission) issued the "Guidelines for the use of electronic means during the investigation, the sequel to the procedure, the verification and the incidents processed before the Federal Economic Competition Commission" (Guidelines in Spanish), which have been duly published in the Federal Official Gazette and are available in the Commission's website. This regulatory instrument will enter into force from the date on which the Board of the Commission determines that the conditions that motivated the issuance of the "Regulatory Provisions of the Federal Antitrust Law on the use of electronic means in certain procedures processed before the Federal Economic Competition Commission" have ceased to exist.

These Guidelines regulate the filing of documents, notifications, and the handling of proceedings through electronic means. These will be mandatory for those who make use of the electronic means referred to in the <u>Regulatory Provisions on the Use of Electronic Means before the Federal Economic Competition Commission</u>, regarding the following procedures:

- Filing of complaints on monopolistic practices and unlawful concentrations.
- Initiation and development of investigations for monopolistic practices or unlawful concentrations; as well as investigations to determine essential facilities or barriers to competition and to resolve on market conditions.
- Benefit of exemption or reduction of the amount of fines (commitments).
- Immunity Program.
- The trial-like procedure.
- The procedures related to the qualification of information derived from legal counsel.
- Verifications of compliance with the obligation to notify a concentration.





- The incidents related to any of the aforementioned procedures.
- Verifications and incidents related to the compliance and execution of the Commission's resolutions.
- Complaints, investigations, and trial-like procedures, derived from the provisions of the Transparency, Prevention and Combat of Undue Practices on matters of Advertising Contracting Law.

The Guidelines allow Cofece to take advantage of technological tools to carry out, to the extent possible, its procedures electronically, which benefits users by reducing times and making processing more efficient. This positions the Commission as an institution at the forefront in the adoption of technology among competition authorities around the world.

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MORE COMPETITION FOR A STRONGER MEXICO

The Federal Economic Competition Commission safeguards competition and free market access.

Through its work, it seeks better conditions for consumers, that more services are supplied with higher quality and that there is a "level-playing-field" for companies.