



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
COMPETITION AUTHORITY

PRESS RELEASE

The market of collection and wholesale of fruits and vegetables in the region of Tirana, Elbasan, Berat, Fier and Korçë is placed under preliminary investigation.

The Competition Commission, after the completion of the monitoring procedure in the market of collection and wholesale of fruits and vegetables, considered at the meeting dated 14.06.2024 the proposal of the competition secretariat for the opening of the preliminary investigation in this market for the district of Tirana, Elbasan, Berat, Fier and Korçë.

With reference to the market structure, vertical integration, the behavior of aggregators and large differences in the product value chain from producers, aggregators, wholesalers to the final consumer, we may face anti-competitive behavior as a result of agreements and/or practices coordinated between two or more enterprises operating in the market of collection and wholesale of fruits and vegetables, in the sense of article 4 of law no. 9121 dated 28.07.2003 "On competition protection".

For these reasons, the Competition Commission, **with decision no. 1085, dated 14.06.2024**, decided to open the preliminary investigation procedure in the fruit-vegetable collection and wholesale market, to see if there is, or not, a violation of Article 4 of Law no. 9121/2003 "On competition protection".

The preliminary investigation covers the time period from January 1, 2023 until May 31, 2024.

For additional information, please consult the official website of the Competition Authority at <http://caa.gov.al>