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**REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË**  
**AUTORITETI I KONKURENCËS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**The Competition Authority has opened an in-depth investigation into the wholesale collection and sale of fruits and vegetables in the regions of Tirana, Elbasan, Berat, Fier, and Korça.**

The Competition Commission, in its meeting on 4 October 2024, assessed the data obtained during the preliminary investigation phase in the market for the collection and wholesale of fruits and vegetables in the districts of Tirana, Elbasan, Berat, Fier, and Korçë.

After analyzing the market structure, vertical integration, the behavior of collecting undertakings, and significant disparities in the product value chain from producers, collectors, wholesalers, to end consumers, it was assessed that this market may exhibit anti-competitive behavior. This is due to agreements and/or coordinated practices between two or more enterprises operating in the market of collection and wholesale distribution of fruits and vegetables, as per Article 4 of Law no. 9121, dated 28.07.2003, “On competition protection”.

For these reasons, the Competition Commission, by Decision No. 1114, dated 04.10.2024, decided to initiate an in-depth investigation procedure, which will cover the period from 01.01.2023 to 30.09.2024.

Furthermore, please consult the official page of the Competition Authority at <http://caa.gov.al>.