

GS1 Emirates Limited Competition Policy Statement

It is the policy of GS1 Emirates Limited (and its subsidiaries) that any and all oral or written discussions held at meetings, events or any other activities sponsored by GS1 Emirates Limited, whether in-person or virtually, or on the premises of GS1 Emirates Limited, whether by member or non-member participants, must be conducted in strict compliance with the UAE federal and/or Emirate-level competition laws and/or regulations. It is the responsibility of each participant, not GS1 Emirates Limited, to ensure their strict compliance with the applicable competition legislation. All participants must be fully familiar with their legal obligations in this respect, and the competition policy adopted by GS1 Emirates Limited does not detract from that responsibility.

In the UAE, several pieces of legislation are applicable in this respect. They include but are not limited to the UAE Competition Law provided for in Federal Decree-Law No. 36/2023 and any applicable regulations. These mandate that all types of agreements or arrangements, whether in writing or not, that have the effect of restricting or preventing competition in the markets, whether a physical area or a digital space, are prohibited, including but not limited to those which involve price fixing, predatory pricing, bid rigging, suspension or limitation of production or supplies, deliberate oversupplies, refusing to deal with certain persons, division of markets, blocking potential market entrants, abuse of a dominant or influential market position, and so forth.

The risk of anti-competitive practices arises whenever competitors participate in common activities. The competition policy adopted by GS1 Emirates Limited seeks to ensure compliance with applicable competition legislation and to avoid any appearance of unlawfulness or illegality. By adhering to the policy, participants at GS1 Emirates Limited activities can minimise any such prospect while contributing to the development of global standards and best industry practices.

Participants must acknowledge that the underlying aim of GS1 Emirates Limited activities is to enhance the ability of organisations to compete more efficiently and effectively through implementing efficient supply chain practices based on GS1 standards, services and solutions. Furthermore, participation in GS1 Emirates Limited activities is voluntary, and the failure to partake shall not be used to penalise any organisation. The results of GS1 Emirates Limited activities possess the status of recommendations which may be implemented by member or non-member participants as they see fit. Individual organizations remain free to make independent and competitive decisions pertaining to the implementation process.

Participants in GS1 Emirates Limited activities must adhere to the applicable agenda and/or any relevant protocols adopted by GS1 Emirates Limited. Participants must not discuss any commercial terms that include, but are not limited to, the fixing of prices or other similar trading conditions; the limitation or control of production, markets, technical development or investment; the allocation or sharing of customers, products, markets or supply sources; refusals to deal; boycotts; the application of different trading conditions to equivalent transactions, thereby placing some parties at a competitive disadvantage; subjecting contracts to unrelated conditions; or any other terms caught within the ambit of UAE competition legislation.

Participants in GS1 Emirates Limited activities should moreover never discuss or exchange information on commercially sensitive matters or put themselves in a position where their own corporate or personal interests conflict with those of GS1 Emirates Limited. Such commercially sensitive matters may include, but are not limited to, information that could influence the future conduct of competitors. Participants must under no circumstances share confidential or commercially sensitive information from or about other participants. Irrespective of whether the activity in question consists of a meeting, event, or oral or written exchanges, whether in-person or virtually, participants must adhere to the same standards of conduct required of them according to this policy.