

Morocco's competition regulator fines fuel companies \$180m

By [Ahmed Eljechimi](#)

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Morocco's competition council said on Thursday, 23 November, it had fined the nine fuel companies operating in the country 1.84 billion dirhams (\$180m) because of non-compliance with free competition rules and price fixing.



Image source: scyther5 – [123RF.com](#)

The council said it had reached an agreement with the petrol and diesel companies and their professional groups to pay the fine collectively.

In October 2022, the council had issued a report on dysfunctions in the country's diesel and petrol market, where three companies have 60% market share.

It raised issues relating to price fixing, higher prices compared to international markets and non-compliance with legal provisions relating to storage.

In 2018, the largest fuel distribution company Afriquia, part of a AKWA group, owned by Moroccan Prime Minister Aziz Akhannouch, was hit by a boycott by consumers who claimed it was charging too high prices.

Morocco has been importing all its refined energy products after its sole refiner went into liquidation in 2015.

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