

Cartel Working Group (CWG)

Short Form Work Plan

New projects

“Proactive Detection & Sanctions Toolkit” Project. The CWG will launch this new project with a view to creating written work product focused on providing guidance to agencies on the legislation and tools needed to effectively detect and prosecute cartels. This written guidance could be a new chapter of the Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual or a separate document. CWG envisions this including examples of complementary legislation for effective cartel prosecutions, such as obstruction legislation, and an overview and examples of legislation for detection tools outside the context of leniency and compulsory document requests, such as access to phone/email records, financial records, consensual recordings, surveillance, voluntary interview authority, etc.

Overhaul Chapter 1 of the ICN’s Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual. This chapter will be revised to include updates about practicalities of carrying out searches, raids, and inspections in the digital, post pandemic era learned from the 2023 ICN CWG webinars.

On-going projects

Webinars / call series. The CWG will organise webinars on topics related to the above projects or of interests for the CWG. Some of these in the form of Asia Pacific friendly calls. In particular, **the following webinars are envisaged:**

- As a companion to “Proactive Detection & Sanctions Toolkit” project, an agency-only webinar series related to Detecting and prosecuting obstruction of investigations.

2024 Cartel Workshop. Expressions of interest have been received from two agencies and further details about the host and date of workshop will be forthcoming shortly.

Horizontal Cooperation and Crisis Cartels at times of Covid-19. The project will focus on crisis cartels at times of economic shocks (incl., high inflation, conflicts, energy transition etc) by seeking and discussing enforcement cases from ICN jurisdictions.

Implementation and dissemination. The CWG will continue to (i) maintain and encourage use of the ICN framework for the promotion of the sharing of non-confidential information; (ii) update and promote the Anti-Cartel Enforcement Templates; (iii) disseminate the use of work-products such as the [Guidance on Enhancing Cross-Border Leniency Cooperation](#) and the [Anti-Cartel Enforcement Manual](#).