

Cartel Working Group (CWG)

Short Form Work Plan

Ongoing projects

“Proactive Detection & Sanctions Toolkit” Project. The CWG launched this new project with a series of webinars on detecting and prosecuting obstruction of cartel investigations in February/March 2024. The Asia-Pacific friendly version will be held in April 2024. This project will further continue with a webinar series focused providing guidance to agencies on the legislation and tools needed to effectively detect and prosecute cartels, 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.

Lead agencies: DOJ and NZCC

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. This project was launched in late 2023, a project team has been formed, and drafting has commenced.

Lead agency: UK CMA

2024 Cartel Workshop. The 2024 ICN Cartel Workshop will take place in Mexico City, Mexico on October 2-4, 2024.

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](#).