



COMMITTEE OF
EUROPEAN
AUDITING
OVERSIGHT
BODIES

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CEAOB Market Monitoring Sub-group

Work-Plan 2025 and Outlook 2026

1. Introduction

In order to further trust in informative, reliable, and independent audit reports, the CEAOB fosters the improvement of audit quality in Europe. To fulfil this mission, the Market Monitoring sub-group facilitates the monitoring of the quality and competitiveness of the market for providing statutory audit services to public-interest entities, with tasks as assisting the Commission in preparing joint reports. The sub-group contributes to the convergence and coordination of the monitoring carried out by national authorities.

This work plan sets out the key priorities and activities for the period from the end of 2024 to the beginning of 2026.

2. Objectives

Through its ongoing work, the sub-group contributes to meeting the following CEAOB's core strategies:

- 1. Harmonizing regulatory approaches:** the sub-group collects and shares information, expertise, and best practices among competent authorities regarding audit activities.
- 2. Sharing expertise and experience:** the sub-group focuses on actual topics in the audit market. It interacts and cooperates with other CEAOB sub-groups in order to share and analyze information on audit market.
- 3. Contributing to EU policy on statutory audit and other assurance:** the sub-group provides transparency on its activities and on information collected. The market monitoring report covers statistics of the auditing sector through the EU. The report is targeted to CEAOB members, authorities and to the general public and it tries to fulfill the objective to increase the general knowledge of the structure and functioning of the audit market.

3. Longer term Outlook

Given that a primary focus of the sub-group is to facilitate monitoring the European audit market, our goal is to continually improve the data collected to ensure that it is timely, accurate and of greater relevance to National Competent Authorities ('NCA') and our external stakeholders.

To assist in this, we continue to refine out our current data gathering tools and where appropriate utilise external sources to provide a more detailed, cohesive picture of the PIE audit landscape within the EU. In cooperation with the Inspection sub-group, we will continue to perform a detailed analysis of audit quality indicators within the European audit market, in order to identify areas of potential systemic risk along with possible mitigation techniques and will collaborate in the identification of member states that do not upload inspection data to the ISG's inspection database.

4. Summary

Below is a summary of our planned activities for the end of 2024 to the beginning of 2026:

- Training session on templates for the CEAOB.
- Receipt of the completed market monitoring templates.
- Review and analysis of the data submitted by the NCAs:
 - Validation questions on data gaps and any data anomalies/error identified.
 - Start the consolidation process.
- Drafting of the 4th Market Monitoring Report.
- Identifying ways to achieve consistency in national market reports across member states and to ensure a higher level of comparability and ease of aggregation of data collected.
- Continue cooperation with the Inspection sub-group within the CEAOB to provide an analysis to the European Commission on audit quality market monitoring indicators for the purposes of market monitoring report.
- Contribute to CEAOB annual report.

The table below sets out the proposed timings of each activity between 2024 to 2026.

	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026
1. Set up						
Update 2025 work plan for presentation to CEAOB						
Update 2026 work plan for presentation to CEAOB						
2. Work step						
Training session on templates for the CEAOB						
Receipt of the completed market monitoring templates						
Review and analysis of the data submitted by the NCAs						
Drafting of the 4th Market Monitoring Report.						
3. Other matters						
Dialogue with Inspection Sub-group						
Input into annual CEAOB report						