



COMMITTEE OF
EUROPEAN
AUDITING
OVERSIGHT
BODIES

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CEAOB Enforcement Sub-group Work-Plan 2020 and Outlook 2021

1. Introduction

This work plan sets out the key priorities and activities for the period to the end of 2020.

The purpose of the sub-group is to facilitate the exchange of information, expertise and best practices in the area of investigations and sanctions and to collect and annually publish aggregated information on all administrative measures and sanctions imposed by competent authorities.

Enforcement sub-group enhances by its work the overall CEAOB's objective to support audit quality and consequently to keep and increase confidence and trust of investors and the broader public in financial reporting in the European Union.

2. Objectives

Through its ongoing work, the sub-group facilitates in particular the aims of the following pillar objectives of the CEAOB:

1. **Cooperation:** Collect and share information, expertise and best practices among competent authorities regarding enforcement activities. Interaction and cooperation with other CEAOB sub-groups in order to share and analyze information of regulation and auditor oversight. Interaction with other enforcement organizations (eg. IFIAR's Enforcement working group).
2. **Communication:** Transparency regarding the activities of the sub-group and the information collected by the sub-group. The annual CEAOB Enforcement Report covers statistics of administrative measures and sanctions through the EU and useful information on functioning of the enforcement bodies and their practices. The Enforcement Report is targeted to CEAOB members, authorities and to the general public.
3. **Interconnectivity:** Enforcement sub-group focuses on actual topics in audit market. Sub-group will collect and share information, which is useful not only to audit regulators within the EU but also third country regulators in the area of auditor oversight, bearing in mind the objective to support audit quality.

3. Main activities

The sub-group will work on the following specific activities:

- Conducting an Enforcement Survey to collect Member States' information on a) statistics on administrative measures and sanctions imposed and a) on the current state of the administrative and disciplinary regimes.
- Issuing an annual Report of Enforcement Survey on data from year 2019 pursuant to Article 30 f (1) of the Audit Directive.
- Identifying and creating information channels and effective mechanisms to share information on best practices.

The general activities of the sub-group will include:

- Exchanging information, expertise and best practices as regards enforcement related issues
- Exchanges with other CEAOB sub-groups where appropriate
- Contributing to the CEAOB annual report

4. Summary

The table below sets out the proposed timings for specific CEAOB Enforcement sub-group tasks in 2020.

	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020
Topics for 2020					
Survey on Enforcement, drafting and finalising questionnaire					
Survey on Enforcement, delivery of questionnaire to CEAOB members					
Consolidate responses and issue a CEAOB Enforcement sub-group report pursuant to Article 30 f (1) of the Audit Directive					

Other matters					
Learning and understanding the investigation and sanctioning regimes in EU member states. Exchange of information through a face-to-face meeting and other channels. Study of real Enforcement cases. Input to annual CEAOB report					
Interaction with other sub-groups, where there is a link to Enforcement, especially with CEAOB International Auditing Standards sub-group and Inspections sub-group. Examination of enforceability of International Auditing Standards and developing criteria for deciding if inspection findings should be referred to enforcement for investigation/sanctioning.					
Setting up information channels and mechanisms within the CEAOB on Enforcement issues, especially exploring the use of CEAOB wiki platform as a discussion channel.					