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Only 17 days until the 17th Technical Conference

In only 17 days, our 17th Technical Conference kicks off! We expect delegates from across the AROSAI-E region and partners and stakeholders from all over the world to attend. The Conference programme will feature a wide range of thematic discussions and interactive exhibition workshops. Programme highlights to look forward to:

- ISSAI responsive SAIs
- Interactive exhibitions and side sessions on A-SEAT and the PFM Reporting Framework
- Blueprint for credible, professional SAIs
- Profile of the future relevant auditor
- Relevance through audit - integration of the SDGs
- Role of SAIs in Anti-Money Laundering & Counter-Financing of Terrorism
- Recognition of Excellence Awards
- Closing Dinner



This year, we will not be hosting separate regularity and performance audit refresher workshops. The Technical Conference will, therefore, be an invaluable opportunity for SAIs to be exposed to the latest technical guidance and exposure drafts we are issuing this year.

Visit www.afrosai-e-tu.co.za for more information and to register.

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Capacitating SAIs to make a meaningful contribution to the SDGs

context of the SDGs and assess the preparedness of national governments to implement the SDGs.

In support of this goal, AFROSAI-E initiated two coordinated audits on the implementation of the SDGs, specifically SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). Eleven SAIs are participating in one or both coordinated audits. Through these audits, the participating SAIs aim to identify gaps through a comprehensive analysis of the issues and challenges. The goal of the coordinated audits is to produce recommendations that will aid governments in refocusing and strengthening efforts to achieve the SDGs. The consolidated findings and transversal issues (from tabled individual country reports) of the two coordinated audits will be published by the second quarter of 2023.

From 5 to 9 September, the audit teams from the participating SAIs gathered in South Africa to workshop their plans for the coordinated audits. The workshop also enhanced participants' knowledge of how to include SDG considerations in their regular performance audits.



INTOSAI PSC emphasises the importance of SAIs commenting on exposure drafts

The INTOSAI PSC meeting took place on 26 and 27 September in Luxembourg, with some of the key discussion items being:

- the revised Terms of Reference for the PSC and the development of its Strategic Plan for 2023 to 2025
- work done by the FIPP, and
- possible digital solutions for presenting the INTOSAI Framework of Professional Pronouncements (IFPP) to ease access to the ISSAIs.

An issue raised several times is the importance of SAIs commenting on draft standards issued for exposure. Consultation with the INTOSAI community is an important step to ensure legitimacy for the individual pronouncement and the IFPP. This requires a reasonable number of SAIs to comment on exposure drafts. Currently, only about 10-15 SAIs globally comment on exposure drafts. We add our voice to the call for SAIs in the INTOSAI community to submit written comments on exposure drafts to the FIPP.

The PSC Strategic Development Plan for 2020-2022 included a major review of the IFPP Framework to serve as a basis for its future development. This review, led by the PSC secretariat, involved a comprehensive analysis of the IFPP, many consultations with INTOSAI bodies and individuals involved in



Annual Regional HR Workshop hosted by SAI Tanzania

Theme: Staff engagement

With continuously growing interest in our annual HR Workshop, we were delighted to have 52 participants from 17 SAIs attend this year. The National Audit Office of Tanzania hosted the workshop in the beautiful city of Dar Es Salaam from 19 to 23 September. The participants came together to share ideas and experiences and explored opportunities to accelerate staff engagement in their SAIs.

Staff who feel connected to their SAI work harder, stay longer and motivate others to do the same. Therefore, staff engagement affects all aspects of SAIs, including productivity, performance, client satisfaction, culture, employee turnover, and more.

The workshop also covered the following topics, which provoked lively discussions and debates:

- Developing and implementing career paths for auditors.
- Importance of effective induction on retention of SAI staff.
- Measuring SAI culture and organisational effectiveness (Culture and Organisational Assessments).
- Developing and implementing staff retention and recognition strategies.
- Developing and implementing a gender, diversity, and inclusion policy/strategy.
- Implementing AFROSAI-E's revised Integrated Competency Framework.

Our gratitude to SAI Tanzania for hosting the workshop and for efficient and professional arrangements.

Participating SAI: Angola, Botswana, Eritrea, Eswatini, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, South Africa, Sudan, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Norway.



Performance Audit Supervision & Review Workshop

Supervisors, team leaders and operational managers from the SAIs of Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Malawi and South Africa, attended the sub-regional Supervision and Review training workshop in South Africa in late September. Subject matter experts from Tanzania, Zimbabwe and the Secretariat supported by the Swedish National Audit Office facilitated the workshop. It followed the country-specific workshops for SAI Uganda and SAI South Africa that were held earlier in the year.

During the training, participants got to troubleshoot current issues they saw as roadblocks to more efficient working practices and devise solutions to address these. The shared insights provided a good foundation for ideas to significantly reduce the time required to complete an audit.



WGISAM puts focus on data-driven SAIs

The AFROSAI-E Working Group on Information Systems Audit and Management (WGISAM) enables knowledge and experience sharing on Information System security in the region. The creation of the WGISAM in 2019 was motivated by the fast-growing technological advancements that present challenges at SAIs, for both IS audits and IS management.

The WGISAM is holding its annual workshop from 26 – 30 September, hosted by SAI Zambia in Livingstone. The theme for this year is Data-Driven SAIs. The meeting includes discussions on using data in audits, SAI data management, cyber security and the AFROSAI-E Guide on Data-Driven SAIs.

During the opening address, the WGISAM Chair, David Munyaka (Director of Audit at SAI Kenya), said: *“Some scholars have described data as the new oil. Just like crude oil, which may not be useful unless refined, data has to be manipulated to make it useful. Going forward, data analytics will play a key role in making SAIs resonate with INTOSAI-P12 to make a difference in the livelihoods of citizens. This is because as governments offer their services, massive data is generated. How SAIs will manipulate this data in the quest to fulfil their mandate will continue shaping the future of the audit profession.”*

In his opening remarks, Dr Dick Sichembe, the Auditor General of Zambia, said, *“...most audit clients are now advancing in digital transformation by adopting complex ICT systems in their operations. This, therefore, requires that SAIs keep up the pace, stay abreast and ensure that they are data-driven themselves”.*



HR Assessment Tools for leadership appointments

In collaboration with the Swedish National Audit Office (SNAO), we held a development workshop early in September to create a set of leadership assessment tools for SAIs. The project team included Carolina Bjerström from SNAO, Frederick B K Wollor from SAI Liberia, Mathilda Maletzky from SAI Namibia and Malin Lindelöv from Lindelöv & Partners in Stockholm, Sweden.

The team developed the following assessment tools:

- A case study presenting leadership/people dilemmas.
- Competency-based interview questions for use in interviews.
- Leadership Values Questionnaire to assess the operating level and leadership style.
- A 360 questionnaire where subordinates, peers and managers assess candidates' leadership competencies.



These assessment tools, which we plan to pilot in 2023, will assist SAIs in assessing, appointing and promoting staff to leadership positions.

UPCOMING CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

The workshop will focus on Oracle databases, which are used for most of the region's Integrated Financial Management Systems (IFMS). The training will build on the knowledge the IS Champions acquired in their course and assist them in developing a deeper understanding of Oracle databases. This will enable them to conduct more thorough audits and make better recommendations to their auditees. We invite SAIs to nominate their trained IS Audit Champions and/or staff who audit Oracle/SAP to attend this training workshop.

[Click here to learn more and register](#)

Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Workshop: 1 November 2022

Online

In collaboration with the GIZ, we will host an online workshop as part of our continued support to SAIs in the region to become gender-responsive organisations. Workshop theme: *The impact of SAI culture on gender, diversity and inclusion initiatives.*

[Click here to learn more and register](#)



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