

Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) Status of the Pacific Regional Audit Initiative (PRAI) - August 2010

PASAI Mandate and Objectives

PASAI promotes transparent, accountable, effective, and efficient use of public sector resources in the Pacific.

PASAI contributes to that goal by helping its member SAIs improve the quality of public sector auditing in the Pacific to uniformly high standards.

To that objective, PASAI's mandate is to: strengthen understanding, co-operation and coordination between its members; advocate the interests in good governance; build and sustain public auditing capacity; assist its members to perform their auditing functions; serve as a regional working group of INTOSAI; and encourage co-operation with other regional working groups and SAIs.

PRAI

The Pacific Regional Audit initiative (PRAI) is a Pacific Plan initiative.

The PRAI's overarching objective is to raise Pacific public auditing to uniformly-high standards.

This in turn is expected to improve transparency and accountability in managing and using public resources.

Governing Board Membership

PASAI has confirmed two representatives of the Governing Board after endorsement by members of the geographical groupings who were not represented at the Kiribati Congress. Mr Haser Hainrick of the Federated States of Micronesia has been endorsed by the Micronesian group and Mr Tamaseu Randy Warren of Samoa by the Polynesian group.

Project Management Framework

Stantons International has submitted the final project management framework (PMF) report after reviews by the Secretariat. The assignment included two key objectives which were to review and provide assurance to the 3-year Workplan and budget, and provide support to the Secretariat to develop a management framework for managing the delivery of activities identified in the Workplan. The PMF report will be circulated to the members of the Governing Board for comments.

Capacity Development Program

The Tier 2 Intermediate Government Auditing and Human Resources Manual working groups completed their mid-point meetings at the PASAI Secretariat during the month. The Tier 2 working group made a useful presentation to PASAI Secretary General Mrs. Lyn Provost and Champion of the manual when she visited the Secretariat on 18 August 2010.

Tier 2 Intermediate Government Auditing –working group with their Champion Mr. Lyn Provost.



The first drafts of the Tier 2 training material and HR manual are being reviewed by the Secretariat and should be provided to the relevant Champions by September 2010.

Cooperative Performance Audit

Of the 10 SAIs that participated in the cooperative performance audit on the management of solid waste, only one SAI has yet to sign off its report. Four SAIs have made their reports public and copies of these are available from the Secretariat.

The SAIs that have confirmed participation for the second cooperative performance audit on the topic "Access to safe drinking water" include Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) – Yap and Kosrae states, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tuvalu and Tonga.

Sub-regional Audit Support (SAS)

PASAI will delay the implementation of the second round of the SAS program following delay in funding. The audits of the Tuvalu entities were scheduled to start from 8 October 2010, Nauru from 7 February 2011 and Kiribati from 9 May 2011. In order to ensure minimal impact on the SAS program, the Nauru and Kiribati phases of the program will proceed as scheduled but the Tuvalu audits will be conducted later in 2011.

The secondees for the second round of the program are Tematang Raimon and Teaaua Rereniti (Kiribati), Gilian Itsimaera (Nauru) and Mase Tumua (Tuvalu)

Accountability and Transparency in the Pacific Region - 2010

The PASAI Secretariat has commenced preliminary work on the 2010 accountability and transparency survey with the gathering of data and discussions with regional institutions on the approach to adopt in the survey. A paper on the approach will be circulated to the members of the Governing Board for comments and endorsement by end of September 2010.

Funding

The Government of Japan has yet to approve the Asian Development Bank's request for funding of PRAI under the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR). PASAI hopes that ADB funds will be available in September. Under the new technical assistance, all consultants (except for those funded by other development partners) will be recruited directly by ADB.

Negotiation for assistance from NZAID is continuing.

PASAI Calendar

The dates for various PASAI activities over the next 3 months are as follows:

- 30 August-4 September Cooperative Performance Audit Planning meeting, Nadi;
- 6-10 September 2010 Tier 3 Supervisory Roles Working Group meeting, Auckland;
- 20-24 September 2010 Financial Audit Manual Working Group meeting, Auckland;
- 8-12 November 2010 Performance Audit Manual Working Group meeting, Auckland;
- 15-19 November 2010 2nd Capacity Building "Kick-off" Conference, Nadi;
- 22-27 November 2010 INCOSAI Cape Town, South Africa.

For any clarification of any of the items in this update, please do not hesitate to contact the PASAI Secretariat by

Email: <u>enquiry@pasai.org</u>
Telephone: +64 9 304 1275
Fax: +64 9 307 9324

Eroni Vatuloka

Executive Director