



Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI)

Status of the Pacific Regional Audit Initiative (PRAI) - July 2012

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 SAs 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 by advocating the interest in good governance and build and sustain auditing capacity while assisting its members to perform their auditing functions. It also serves as a regional working group of INTOSAI and encourage co-operation with other regional working groups.

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.

1. 15th PASAI Congress

Preparations are moving to at speed and with anticipation of an exciting and full meeting in Noumea. We are grateful to Francois and his team for their hard work to ensure its success.

To help Francois and the Secretariat, would PASAI members, development partners and stakeholders who have indicated that they will attend the 15th PASAI Congress please send their completed registration forms to the PASAI Secretariat or to the host, the SA of New Caledonia, as early as possible. For any enquiries, please contact the Secretariat, sook.vun@pasai.org.

The PASAI Secretariat has also circulated a template to heads of SAs to complete for their Congress presentations on key developments in their jurisdictions. The report back sessions at successive Congress have been a highlight. Each head of SAs will have up to 10 minutes at the Congress to make his/her presentation. Again, to help with the organisation, it would be helpful for completed presentations to be forwarded to the Secretariat by 31 August. SAs requiring any assistance are welcome to contact the Executive Director, eroni.vatuloka@pasai.org.

2. Capacity Building

ISSAI Implementation Initiative (3i) – The three PASAI mentors of the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs) rollout program; Ms Violet Fasavalu, Ms Margaret Numanga; and Ms Mere Waqanicagica have completed their training in Oslo, Norway. The 3-week workshop, which ended on 3 August 2012, developed the local ISSAI program for implementation in the region.

The heads of SAs and/or senior officers will attend the first ISSAI rollout workshop for the region in Nadi, Fiji on 3-5 December 2012. There will be more on the programme at the Congress and the PASAI Secretariat will be in touch with SAs once details are confirmed.

Financial Audit Manual – Following the Governing Board decision to make the "work-in-progress" financial audit manual more relevant to SAs in the region, PASAI considered a number of options. They decided that, rather than re-inventing the wheel, they would adopt a manual that has all the material necessary for SAs in the region. Consequently, AFROSAI-E has kindly offered to share its manual, which is updated with the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). The PASAI Secretariat is in contact with AFROSAI-E about the adoption of its audit manual. More information on this will be provided at the October PASAI Congress.

Strategic Management and Operational Guidelines (SMOG) Management Workshop - The SMOG Working Group met in Auckland and had its first meeting with the recently appointed SMOG Advisor between the 2nd and 6th of July. Members of the team include Ms. Lillian Hytongue (Samoa), Mr. Sairusi Dukuno (Fiji), Ms. Llewelyn Iterlaje (Guam) and Ms. Mamu Kolis (PNG). This meeting was scheduled primarily to get the working group to set the ground work in developing an outline of the PASAI SMOG that would be used for the region.

A general outline of the SMOG was agreed by the team and the Secretariat, and a copy was sent to the project champion, Mr Peter Achterstraat, Auditor-General of NSW for his comments. The outline includes a plan, targets and milestones and a risk management plan. It is planned that a draft guideline will be tabled at PASAI's Congress in October.



Strategic Management and Operational Guidelines (SMOG) Working Group
(L-R): Mamu Kolis, Thomas Holland (SMOG advisor), Llewelyn Terlaje, Lillian Hytongue Waterhouse and Sairusi Dukuno.

3. Co-operative Performance Audits

Managing Sustainable Fisheries - Congratulations to the Office of the National Auditor of the Federated States of Micronesia. They released their performance audit report on the Management of Tuna Fisheries in FSM on 22 June 2012. This is the first report to be released. The remaining nine audit reports are currently being finalised and a number have been provided to relevant agencies for comment.

There has been some slippage in the timelines for the release of remaining reports. We are keen to see these reports tabled to ensure the timely development of the regional overview report. As FSM has been able to achieve, the individual reports being tabled is an important objective for the programme and the SAI. However, the regional overview report is also an important objective. The overview report can achieve much at the regional level when it is completed and published. This has been PASAI's experience with its prior reports into waste and water.

It would be appreciated if SAIs could advise the Secretariat as to the status of the outstanding reports.

4th Co-operative Performance Audit (CPA) - The ADB Performance Audit Adviser and the Coordinator of the RWGEA have commenced detailed planning for the 4th CPA on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk and Recovery (DRR) strategies. A proposal for a cooperative audit on CCA/DRR will be presented to the 15th PASAI Congress in October 2012 and will include a communication strategy targeting stakeholders.

Performance Audit Manual - The PASAI Performance Audit Manual has been released and a copy is available from the PASAI website.

Report of the Cooperative Audit on Access to Safe Drinking Water - The regional overview report on the cooperative audit on access to safe drinking water has also been made public and is available from the PASAI website.

4. Support to SAIs

The Executive Director made a visit to the Kiribati SAI between 30 July and 2 August to review the completed SAS program and provide support to the new Auditor General, Ms Matereta Raiman. The work involved: finalizing the audit management letters of the SAS audits and provided these to the Auditor General; assisting the SAI in developing a simple audit portfolio management system; and, obtaining an evaluation of the training attended by the staff of the SAI. Ms Raiman appreciated the visit and there was a suggestion of another visit in 2013.

5. Accountability and Transparency Report 2011

The Accountability and Transparency Report 2011 will be released by 17 August 2012 and a copy will be available from the PASAI website www.pasai.org.

6. SAI Review Survey

Thank you for the completed SAI review surveys. A report of the SAI Review Survey is being drafted for the Governing Board meeting in October, with the objective it be released to the Congress.

8. PASAI Calendar

In the next six months, PASAI has planned the following activities:

- 30-31 August – *Tier 3 Supervisory Roles*, co-ordinators preparation meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
- 3-14 September – *Tier 3 Supervisory Roles* training, Nadi, Fiji;
- 4-5 September - SAS Committee meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
- 20-21 September – *Communicating Effectively* workshop, co-ordinators preparation meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
- 24-28 September – *Communicating Effectively* workshop, Nadi, Fiji;
- 1 October – 7th Governing Board meeting, Noumea, New Caledonia;
- 2-5 October – 15th PASAI Congress, Noumea, New Caledonia;
- 19-24 November – Co-operative performance audit (Climate change adaptation) planning meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
- 29-30 November – SMOG coordinators meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
- 3-5 December – 3i management workshop, Nadi, Fiji;
- 6 -14 December, SMOG management workshop, Nadi, Fiji.

For further information, please contact the PASAI Secretariat:

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