

Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI)

Status of the Pacific Regional Audit Initiative (PRAI) - March 2011

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.

Capacity building

The development of the 9 PASAI manuals and training materials are progressing as scheduled. At least 4 of these manuals are expected to be tabled in the 5th Governing Board meeting in Tonga in August 2011.

The pilot training on Tier 3 Supervisory Roles in Government Auditing was held at Novotel Nadi, Fiji on 14-25 March 2011. The 14 participants from 13 SAs were trained and evaluated the scope, relevance and appropriateness of the contents of the training material. The Secretariat and coordinators have analysed the evaluations and will be making changes to the structure and contents of the material.



The Reporting Guidelines and the Quality Assurance working groups met in Auckland, New Zealand on 28 February to 4 March and 28 March to 1 April respectively to develop the first drafts of the manuals. The two manuals will be sent to our champions for review by 29 April 2011. The champions are Mr Camillo Fuimaono Afele, the Controller and Chief Auditor of Samoa for the Reporting Guidelines, and Mr Raimon Taake, Auditor General of Kiribati for the Quality Assurance Guidelines. The two heads of SAs, who are also members of the PASAI Governing Board, are keen to see the manuals introduced and used in the day-to-day work of the SAs.

Capacity Building

Five of the ten SAs participating in the cooperative performance audit on access to safe drinking water have submitted their draft reports to be worked on in the reporting meeting scheduled for 4-9 April 2011. The other SAs drafts are being finalized and will be ready in time for the meeting. Apart from assessing the effectiveness of actions taken by key agencies to improve access to safe drinking water, the other objective of this exercise is to educate the participants to write high quality audit reports for their SAs and legislatures.

Sub-regional Audit Support (SAS) program

The second round of the SAS program has started with the advertisement of the SAS coordinator and expert positions by the Asian Development Bank, which is the major sponsor and development partner with PASAI in this initiative. The

coordinator and the expert will prepare the program in a planning meeting to be held in Auckland, New Zealand on 30 May – 3 June.

The secondees that have been confirmed for the second round of the SAS program are:

- i) Mr Tematang Raimon - Kiribati
- ii) Ms Teaava Rereneti - Kiribati
- iii) Ms Gillian Itsimaera - Nauru
- iv) Mr Mase Tumua - Tuvalu.

As part of their partnering with PASAI in the running of the program, ADB will undertake the immediate logistics/support work for the program.

Funding

Following the announcement of NZAid coming on board as development partner with NZ\$2 million in funding, PASAI has been able to utilize their funding to continue the initiatives of PRAI. PASAI therefore wishes to express its appreciation and thanks to the New Zealand government for its assistance to PASAI.

PASAI Congress – Tonga, August 2011

The 14th PASAI Congress will be held in Nukualofa, Tonga on 1 – 5 August 2011. The Congress program which is being developed also includes a one-day workshop on *Leading organizational change and Awareness of the International Standards on Auditing for Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs)*. The Chairman of INTOSAI and Auditor General of South Africa, Mr Terence Nombembe has indicated that he will also attend the Congress.

Invitations to the Congress will be sent out soon.

Secretariat

The ADB has advertised the PASAI Editor position under its website. The principal role of the position will be to edit and prepare for printing the 9 manuals and training materials that are currently being developed, and reports and documents under the various programs of PRAI.

PASAI Calendar

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

- 4-8 April, Cooperative audit reporting meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
- 11-18 April, Tier 4 mid-point meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
- 11-18 April, Commonwealth Congress, Namibia;
- 28-29 April, ACAG & ACPAC meetings, Perth, Australia;
- 30 May - 3 June, SAS Planning meeting, Auckland, New Zealand; and
- 6 June, SAS program starts in Kiribati.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the PASAI Secretariat.

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