

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.

14th PASAI Congress, Nukualofa, Tonga – 2-5 August 2011

The Auditor General of Tonga, Mr Pohiva Tuionetoa has sent out invitations to the 14th PASAI Congress to members, development partners, and stakeholders. The Congress is to be held in Nukualofa, Tonga on 2-5 August 2011. The Chairman of INTOSAI and Auditor General of South Africa, Mr Terence Nombembe, who had indicated earlier his intention to attend, has unfortunately sent his apologies. However, he is interested in attending the 2012 Congress.

We already have 15 registrations from members to attend the Congress. SAs are asked to complete their registrations as soon as convenient to help with organisation of the event and because the designated hotel, the Tonga International Dateline Hotel, only has limited superior and standard rooms available

The Congress is important in the life of PASAI. The traditional roundtable report from each country remains important in that life. This year we are seeking to provide some greater structure around that session and have asked each head of SAI or their representative to consider the Johannesburg Accords as part of that brief presentation (limited to 10 minutes, please!). The Secretariat has sent out some guidance and a questionnaire (sent on 27 May 2011) that should assist countries to structure their report appropriately. In relation to the questionnaire, heads of SAs are requested to complete the questionnaire and return it to the Secretariat by 8 July 2011.

Please contact Eroni Vatuloka, Executive Director of the Secretariat (include contact details), if any matter of the report back session can be clarified.

Capacity Building

The working groups that are developing PASAI manuals have completed three of the five manuals, which are now ready for editing and printing. These are the Human Resources Management Manual, Reporting Guidelines, and Quality Assurance Guidelines. Two other manuals, the Performance Audit Manual and Financial Audit Manual and one of the four training materials are currently being reviewed.

The completed manuals and training materials will be tabled at the next Governing Board meeting for approval and at the PASAI Congress in Tonga for endorsement.



Participants of the Tier 3 Pilot group with their certificate of completion.

Front (L-R): Raveena Kumar, Vaipou Nofoaiga, Erwine David, Rodalyn Marquez, Tokanikai Tira, Gillian Itsimaera, Elizabeth Jack.
Back (L-R): Charles Ramosaea, Inoke Pulu, Ronald Yow, Margret Numanga, Samuela Tupou, Asau Leuma, Lemeki Ila.

Cooperative performance audit

PASAI is encouraging SAls that are participating in the co-operative performance audit on access to safe drinking water to complete the quality assurance process on their reports and send them out to auditees and stakeholders for their comments. This will ensure early sign-off of the reports by the heads of SAls and the subsequent tabling in Parliament. Early sign offs are critical to being able to complete a regional summary. This has been a key learning out of our first cooperative audit. The regional summary has been significantly held up and impacts on its effectiveness.

SAls that need assistance on the audit should contact Mr Allen Parker at the PASAI Secretariat.

Meanwhile, the Secretariat is making arrangements for the third co-operative performance audit on sustainable fisheries. The specific topic will be discussed and confirmed during the PASAI Congress in Tonga. The INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI) has offered to fund the participants' travel, accommodation, and other expenses for a planning meeting to be held on 22-26 August 2011. PASAI extends its appreciation to IDI for its continued support to the co-operative performance audit program.

Sub-regional Audit Support (SAS) program

PASAI, working with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), has confirmed the appointment of Mr Ross Hilton as the SAS Co-ordinator for the program to work alongside the previously appointed SAS Expert, Matt Major. The amended program for the second round is:

- Planning meeting in Auckland, New Zealand will be on 13-17 June 2011
- Kiribati phase audits, 20 June - 26 August 2011
- Nauru phase audits, 12 September - 18 November 2011
- Tuvalu phase audits, 23 January - 30 March 2012.

PASAI looks forward to the start of the second round of the SAS program and aims to ensure it is as successful as the first round. The outcomes of the first round of the program (carried out from August 2009 to April 2010) include completing audits of two entities in each SAS country (Kiribati, Nauru, and Tuvalu) and, most importantly, on-the-job training for five secondees and nine other staff of the SAls in the three countries.

Secretariat

The Secretary-General's Office, the PASAI Legal Advisor, and the Secretariat are continuing their work on a project and performance management framework. The framework essentially provides a system for managing and monitoring PASAI's various projects, ensuring that they are implemented effectively and efficiently.

There will be more on this at the Congress.

PASAI Calendar

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

- 13-17 June, SAS planning meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
- 20 June - 26 August, SAS Kiribati phase audits, Kiribati;
- 22-24 June, INTOSAI PSC Steering Committee meeting, Wellington, New Zealand;
- 11-22 July, Tier 1 Fundamentals of government auditing, pilot training, Nadi, Fiji;
- 1 August, 5th Governing Board meeting, Nukualofa, Tonga;
- 2-5 August, 14th PASAI Congress, Nukualofa, Tonga;
- 22-26 August, Co-operative Performance Audit – Fisheries planning meeting, Novotel Nadi, Fiji.

For further information, please contact the PASAI Secretariat.

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