



Concept note III ISSAI 4300 draft

ISSAI 4300 draft

The CAS subgroup of court of accounts issues has worked further on the ISSAI 4300 draft in light of the committee discussion of the draft presented at the CAS meeting in Batumi, Georgia in 2011. At the 2011 meeting the committee acknowledged the specific characteristics of courts and the additional considerations that need to be taken into account when conducting Compliance Audit within a court. The need for a standard on court of accounts issues stems from the fact that the quality of the audit evidence is specific, as the consequences of decisions are severe.

The committee concluded that in order to achieve a document at a standard level the audit concepts of the ISSAI need to be at high level. It is important to define the audit objectives and tasks of the courts as in terms of subject matter and assess the relationship between the audit phase and the judgment phase. Hence, the ISSAI 4300 should be developed at a more generic level to be applicable for all courts, and take into consideration the specific comments made by the committee.

Due process

The due process for INTOSAI professional standards sets up the following stages in the process for developing standards:

Stage 1:		Stage 2:	Stage 3:	Stage 4:
Project proposal	Preliminary draft (optional)	Exposure draft	Endorsement version	Final ISSAI

The due process requires the following of a project proposal:

Stage 1: The project proposal

Before development of new ISSAIs or INTOSAI GOVs that are not part of a previously approved project is initiated, the subcommittee carries out an initial assessment. The purpose of the initial assessment is to determine the categories of auditing or other tasks that will be covered by the document, to consider the differences among SAIs that must be accommodated and to ensure consistency with existing ISSAIs and INTO-SAI GOVs. In the initial assessment, it is determined to what extent 1) it will be possible and desirable to build on guidance from other internationally recognized, regional or national standard setters and if so, 2) to what extent supplementary guidance is needed in order to meet the needs and concerns of the INTOSAI community.

Based on the initial assessment, the responsible subcommittee works out a

project proposal for approval by the steering committee. The project proposal may refer the responsibility for the project to an existing sub-committee or working group within the PSC or other INTOSAI committees or establish a special project group to carry the project through. The project proposal should specify the timeline and include suggestions for appropriate ISSAI or INTOSAI GOV numbers and working titles for any envisaged new documents. The classification of documents and the ISSAI/INTOSAI GOV number is decided on by the PSC Chair on the basis of the principles for classification of INTOSAI's professional standards.

Issues for discussion in the committee

The Chair invites the committee to a discussion on the following issues:

1. Does the ISSAI 4300 draft contain contents, terminology and structure at a sufficient generic level as to be applicable to all courts?
2. Is the ISSAI 4300 draft developed to a mature stage so as to be presented for the PSC steering committee as project proposal or preliminary draft?