

Introduction

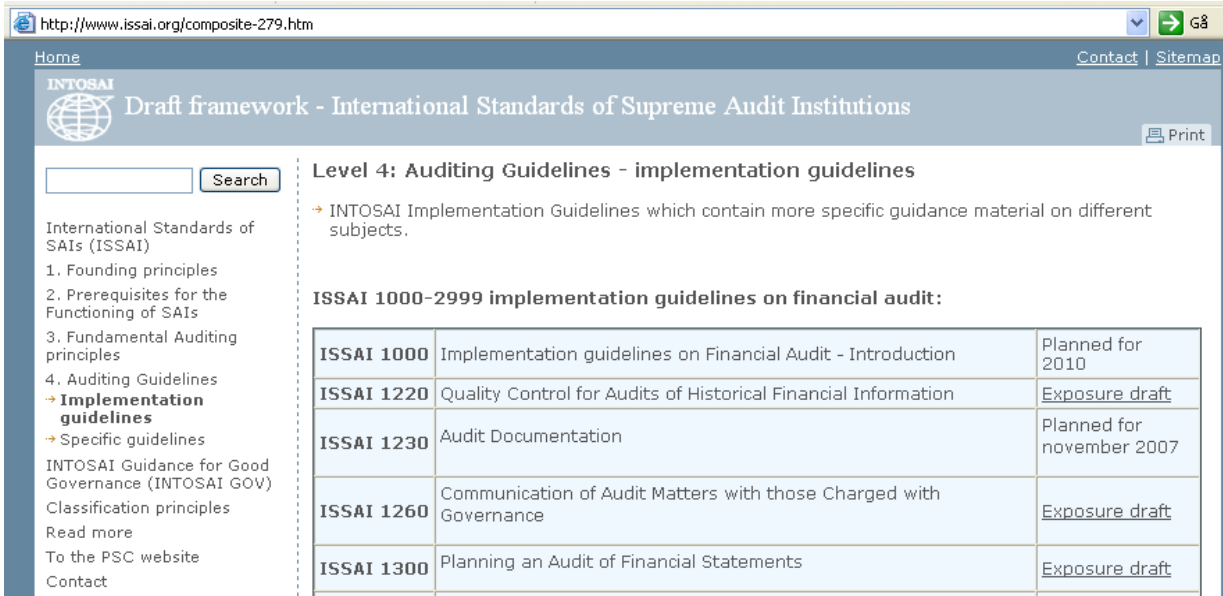
The Professional Standards Committee (PSC) of the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) has in November 2006 to February 2007 conducted a survey on the needs and priorities of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) in the future development of professional standards. At its congress in November 2007 INTOSAI will decide on a new framework gathering INTOSAI's professional standards and guidelines under the name International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI) at www.issai.org. The name INTOSAI Guidance for Good Governance (INTOSAI GOV) will be used for guidelines directed to administrative authorities. The purpose of the survey was to give directions to PSC on how the ISSAIs and INTOSAI GOVs may best be developed in the coming years.

A total of 100 SAIs...

A total of 100 SAIs have submitted their answers. This corresponds to 54% of INTOSAI's 186 members. 2 of the participating SAIs answered only parts of the questionnaire.

- of all kinds...

The group of participating SAIs reflects the diversity in INTOSAI very well. 56 have an auditor general or comptroller general, 20 are courts of audits or chambers of accounts, 9 are of the board-model, while 15 are of other types. Measured by the number of employees the survey includes small, medium sized as well as large SAIs.



The screenshot shows the website <http://www.issai.org/composite-279.htm>. The page title is "Draft framework - International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions". The main content area is titled "Level 4: Auditing Guidelines - implementation guidelines". Below this title, there is a link: "→ INTOSAI Implementation Guidelines which contain more specific guidance material on different subjects." Below this link, there is a section titled "ISSAI 1000-2999 implementation guidelines on financial audit:" followed by a table.

ISSAI	Implementation guidelines on Financial Audit - Introduction	Planned for 2010
ISSAI 1000	Implementation guidelines on Financial Audit - Introduction	Planned for 2010
ISSAI 1220	Quality Control for Audits of Historical Financial Information	Exposure draft
ISSAI 1230	Audit Documentation	Planned for november 2007
ISSAI 1260	Communication of Audit Matters with those Charged with Governance	Exposure draft
ISSAI 1300	Planning an Audit of Financial Statements	Exposure draft

Fig.1. www.issai.org - contains the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI) and the INTOSAI Guidance for Good Governance (INTOSAI GOV).

- from around the world have given answers on...

The participating SAIs are also relatively equally distributed across the regions of the world. Members of EUROSAI are a little stronger represented than other regions, while CAROSAI and SPASAI are a little less well represented. The questionnaire was available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

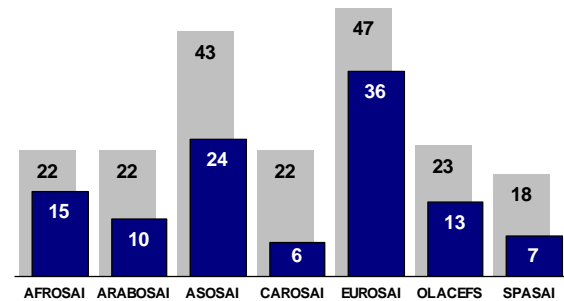


Fig.2. The number of SAIs, which have answered the survey, compared to the number of members of INTOSAI's regional groups

Note: Some SAIs are members of more than one organisation

- 3 main themes.

The survey covered 3 main themes:

- What standards and guidelines are used by SAIs?
- What are the needs for audit guidance for the public sector?
- How may INTOSAI's standards and guidelines be improved in the coming years?

The main results related to each theme are presented in the following sections. More detailed information on the wording of the questions and answers received is presented in the annexed data report.

The use of standards and guidelines

In a series of questions, the SAIs were asked what standards they use for auditing and other tasks.

3/4 use INTOSAI's auditing standards ...

The answers show that 3/4 of the SAIs – 76 of the 100 SAIs – use INTOSAI Auditing Standards for financial auditing, compliance auditing or performance auditing. Most of these SAIs use the standards for all three branches of public auditing, while some SAIs also use the standards in connection with other tasks, e.g. programme

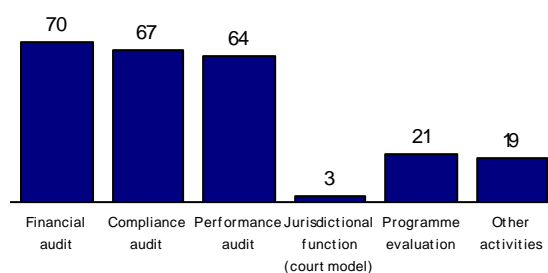


Fig. 3. Use of INTOSAI standards by activity

standards in connection with other tasks, e.g. programme

evaluation. For each task, Fig. 3 shows the number of SAIs that have indicated that they use the INTOSAI standards.

- often in combination with standards from IFAC...

The answers reflect that many SAIs combine guidance material from more than one source for the purpose of their various tasks. Apart from INTOSAI's standards the most widely used are the International Standards on Auditing issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). Most use these standards in their financial auditing, but there are also some, who use them in compliance and performance audits. Fig. 4 shows how the use of standards from INTOSAI and IFAC coincide. Of the 76 SAIs using INTOSAI auditing standards for auditing tasks, 55 also use the IFAC standards for some of the tasks.

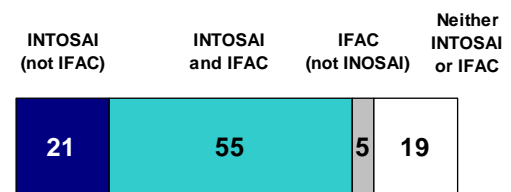


Fig.4. Standards used for financial auditing, compliance auditing or performance auditing

- and other sources...

In addition to INTOSAI and IFAC, a number of other sources provide standards used by SAIs. These sources are national standard setters, INTOSAI's regional organisations and the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). Some SAIs also make use of standards for public sector auditing from other countries. This includes standards from USA, Canada and the European implementation guides to INTOSAI auditing standards issued by the SAIs of the EU countries.

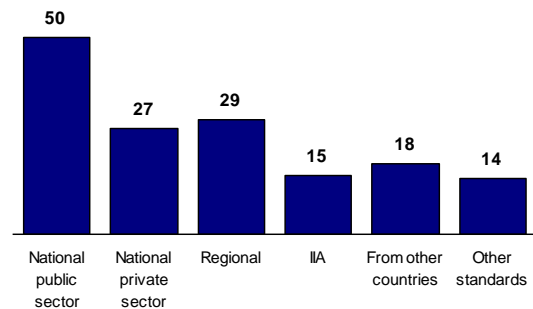


Fig. 5. Standards used for financial, compliance or performance auditing - by source (other than INTOSAI and IFAC)

- to enhance quality and credibility...

- in many different ways.

The survey also shows that the two main reasons for using international standards are to enhance quality in audits and to strengthen accountability and credibility of the SAI.

The SAIs use international standards in many different ways. Most SAIs use them to develop strategy and methodology of their auditing. In a little more than half of the SAIs, the standards are applied directly by auditors, while almost the same number use them as a basis for formulation of national standards and guidelines. The standards are also very widely used for education and certification and as reference points in audit reports and other external communications. It should be added that there are no distinct differences in how the standards are used between the group of SAIs using IFAC standards and other SAIs.



Fig.6. Ways of using international standards

The SAIs agree to PSC's approach...

The public sector needs

The questionnaire stated that *the Professional Standards Committee's 'Dual Approach' implies that INTOSAI standards and guidelines should preferably be based on standards from other standard-setting bodies that are widely recognized among SAIs. By recognizing, utilizing and building on standards issued by other standard setting bodies to the maximum extent possible and appropriate, PSC will work to harmonize public sector auditing world wide. INTOSAI will develop complementary guidance where there is a special need and/or pressing concern in the SAI environment (For example on performance audit) and INTOSAI will seek to influence international standards to address issues of particular interest to SAIs.*

97 SAIs answered the question, as to whether this was an approach they could support. 2 answered that they disagreed with the approach, while 81 answered that the approach was appropriate. 14 chose instead to give a more extensive answer.

While these were generally supportive, some emphasised the importance of improved audit guidance tailored to SAIs and some emphasised the importance of harmonisation between public and private sector standards. A few also called for a strengthening of INTOSAI’s standard setting process.

- and find a need for specific guidance for SAIs.

There was broad consensus that there are some differences between public and private sector auditing and that there is therefore a need for special guidance for public sector auditing. As shown in fig. 7, 14 SAIs indicated that their needs include guidance on SAI institutional issues only. 61 SAIs answered that there are also differences in the auditing tasks that calls for specific guidance. 9

find almost no similarities between public and private sector auditing in their country, why internal guidance on all aspects of public sector auditing would be helpful.

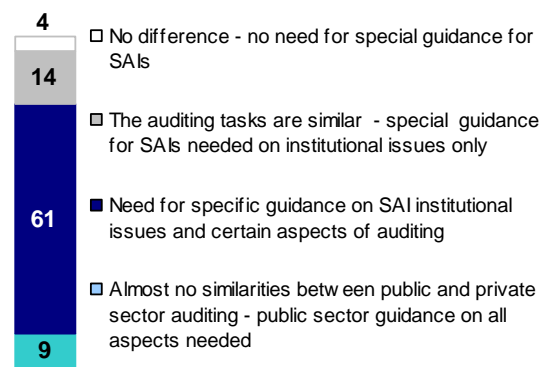


Fig.7. General view on the difference between public and private sector auditing and the need for special audit guidance for SAIs

Public and private sector differs in...

To shed further light on the issue, the SAIs were asked

how the role of a SAI differs from private sector auditing. Generally, auditing standards covers the auditor’s conduct throughout the process of carrying out audit engagements. The questions therefore concerned the different aspects of the process.

- the general purpose of the audit,...

In 81 of the participating countries, the general purpose of auditing in the public sector is to some extent different from auditing in the private sector. The differences most frequently mentioned concern the constitutional role of a SAI as a mechanism of democratic control and the relationship to parliament. Compliance and performance auditing are also mentioned. Some have explained that compliance audit has a very different meaning in the public sector than in the private sector. Other mentions that public auditing facilitates improvements in the administration and that unlike the private sector it is not possible to measure the efficiency of public sector entities by their profit. A few have pointed to more specific areas. Corruption may thus be issues of concern in the public sector, while tax law is of importance in private sector auditing.

- the nature of accounts and activities,...

75 SAIs have answered that the nature of the audited accounts and activities in the public sector differ in some aspects from the private sector. Most frequently mentioned is the use of cash-based accounting in the public sector as opposed to accrual based in private firms. A few SAIs have also mentioned areas that are of special importance in the public audit, e.g. audit of grant schemes and social payments, public investments and constructions, public procurements and public debt.

- the reporting procedure....

75 indicate that the reporting procedure of public sector auditing in their country differs from private sector auditing. In most cases these are related to the fact that SAIs report to parliament in accordance with national rules or practices while auditing firms issue certifications on accounts on the basis of international standards. In addition, some SAIs mention that they cannot reject to issue an opinion, some that their reports are public and some that their reports must be more comprehensive than those issued by other auditors.

- and the auditor-auditee relationship.

65 SAIs have answered that there are differences between public and private sector auditing with regard to the relationship between the auditor and the audited entity. Common to their answers is that the concerns and safeguards of independence are different in the public and the private sector. SAIs are public authorities and determine on the basis of their legal mandate and budget, how to best carry out their audits of a fixed number of entities within their remit. In contrast, clients pay for the services of private auditors and are free to choose and replace their auditors at will. Some also mention that SAIs primarily report to parliament while private auditors normally report to their clients (e.g. a board of directors). A few SAIs also point to their strong legal powers, when requesting information from clients.

Compliance auditing may also differ,...

There are more divergent views on whether there are differences in the methods and principles used in the auditing. 43 SAIs found that this is the case for compliance audit. 38 SAIs did not, and 19 gave no opinion on this question. Among those to whom a difference exists, some explain that even though the same word - 'compliance' auditing - is used by private auditors and SAIs the word is used in very different meanings. Others indicate that compliance audit is much less important or does not exist in the private sector in their country. Some emphasize that compliance audit is an integrated part of the SAI's audit and comprises the total body of applicable public law while private auditor's tasks will usually be of more limited scope. It is also mentioned that reviews of

compliance with administrative procedures and regulations serve to safeguard public funds.

- while financial auditing is more often alike...

Within financial auditing, 40 SAIs find that there are differences in the methods and principles of auditing. However, a majority of 50 SAIs see no such differences. The comments given by the SAIs seem to suggest agreement that common methods and principles in the public and private sector are desirable in principle, while the disagreement seems to concern whether it would be possible to eliminate all differences. Some answers reflect that differences in the relevant considerations of materiality and the kind of risks involved, may give rise to different auditing approaches. It is also mentioned that financial audit of a SAI is closely tied to the appropriation control and audit of legality of transactions. The audited public accounts should thus provide assurance that means are used with due care as decided by parliament, while an auditor's certification of company accounts should provide assurance regarding information that may impact the value of the company.

Because performance audit is a concept of INTOSAI and is not comparable to concepts in private sector auditing the PSC steering committee has decided not to include a similar question on the principles and methods of performance audit.

- and there are often no differences in the documentation requirements.

The majority of SAIs answer that there are no differences between public and private sector when it comes to the documentation requirements. 31 SAIs, however, indicate that there are some differences in their country, as requirements of their documentation are regulated by public law or a more detailed documentation is required in the public sector.

Improving INTOSAI standards and guidelines

The questionnaire referred to the existing and planned INTOSAI standards and guidelines on www.issai.org and contained a series of questions on the needs for further improvement.

There are many suggestions for new standards...

The SAIs were asked if there were any issues, not covered by the existing INTOSAI Auditing Standards, where development of new standards would be relevant. 53 SAIs answered that they found no such issues. 41 SAIs suggested a number of different issues where standards could be elaborated. 4 SAIs commented that the INTOSAI Auditing Standards are not very useable, and should be more detailed. On similar grounds, 1 SAI suggested that INTOSAI’s standards should be abolished and replaced by the planned practice notes to IFAC’s standards and INTOSAI’s implementation guidelines on performance auditing. 1 SAI called for differentiation in standards between more and less developed countries.

- and guidelines.

A number of SAIs also suggested issues to be covered in guidelines. The suggested areas of improvement of INTOSAI Auditing Standards and implementation guidelines are summarized in fig.8.

The guidelines are needed...

In order to determine how PSC should prioritise its resources a series of questions concerned the need for elaboration of the guidelines in different areas. For each area, the SAIs could indicate that the guidelines needed elaboration, were satisfactory or that no guidelines were needed. The answers reflect that there is a general need for INTOSAI guidelines. Only very few SAIs have answered that no guidelines were needed in the areas mentioned.

-and should be further elaborated...

The vast majority of SAIs indicated a number of areas were

Standards	Guidelines
<i>Performance auditing (4)</i>	<i>Audit of performance statements</i>
<i>Risk analysis in performance auditing</i>	<i>Performance assesment systems - indicators</i>
<i>Audit of performance statements</i>	<i>Systems audit - relation to substance testing</i>
<i>Compliance auditing (2)</i>	<i>Incomplete accounts</i>
<i>Risk based standards for financial audit</i>	<i>conflict of interests</i>
<i>Systems evaluation – internal controls (2)</i>	<i>grants and subsidies</i>
<i>Risk assessment (4)</i>	<i>Risk assesment</i>
<i>Risk management</i>	<i>Work of other auditors</i>
<i>IT audit - audit in an IT environment (5)</i>	<i>IT audits (4)</i>
<i>Corruption and fraud (4)</i>	<i>Role of IT – also for competence building</i>
<i>Forensic audits (2)</i>	<i>Fraud - as in ISA 240, 401</i>
<i>Internal control standards</i>	<i>Corruption</i>
<i>Audit quality (2)</i>	<i>Audit quality</i>
<i>Quality control review of each SAI</i>	<i>Human Resource management in SAIs</i>
<i>Environmental issues (2)</i>	<i>Environmental auditing</i>
<i>Standards for courts</i>	<i>Norms on publication of the results of SAIs</i>
<i>Business intelligence - Pre-audits</i>	<i>Business intelligence - Pre-audits</i>
<i>Financing of Terrorism</i>	<i>Health care systems</i>
<i>Group financial statements (based on ISA 600)</i>	<i>Group Financial Statements - as in ISA 600</i>
<i>Money laundering</i>	
<i>Islamic-based transactions or risk-sharing principles</i>	
<i>Best practice in government reforms</i>	
<i>Pension funds</i>	
<i>The concept of accountability</i>	
<i>Evaluation of public policies</i>	

Fig.8. Suggested areas where INTOSAI’s standards and guidelines could be improved.

Where more than one SAI has given the same suggestion, the number of SAIs is indicated in parenthesis ()

guidelines should be elaborated in the coming years. The answers show however no strong indication of which areas to put on the top of the priority list.

- in all areas ...

Fig. 9 shows the number of SAIs that have indicated a wish for elaboration of guidelines for financial audit, compliance audit, performance audit or audit of internal control. 67 would welcome elaborations of guidelines on compliance auditing. Only a few less find a need for more elaborate guidelines on financial auditing, performance auditing and internal controls.

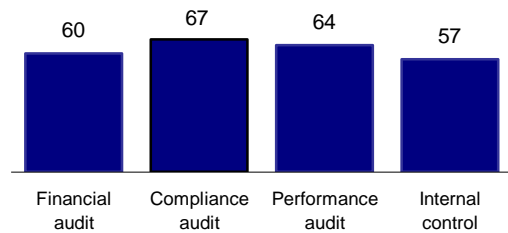


Fig. 9. Number indicating that guidelines should be elaborated – by branch of audits

At the time of the survey, some guidelines were already in use and others were planned. While the INTOSAI Implementation guidelines for Performance Auditing were adopted in 2004, the first financial auditing and compliance auditing implementation guidelines are planned for 2007. A set of guidelines for Internal Control Standards for The Public Sector and a number of related documents are available. However, these guidelines provide guidance on good governance rather than auditing of internal controls. In addition a number of guidelines have been issued on audit work within special fields, e.g. international institutions, environmental auditing, privatisations, IT and public debt. It is not clear how these differences in the availability of guidelines have influenced the figures.

- especially on audit methods.

Further guidance on auditing methods seem to have higher priority than e.g. guidance on reporting. Fig. 10 shows the number of SAIs who has indicated that guidelines on financial audit, compliance audit or performance audit should be elaborated. A total of 75 SAIs find that the guidelines should be elaborated with regard to auditing methods, while a little fewer wishes elaborations on the process of planning and carrying out audits, on documentation requirements and

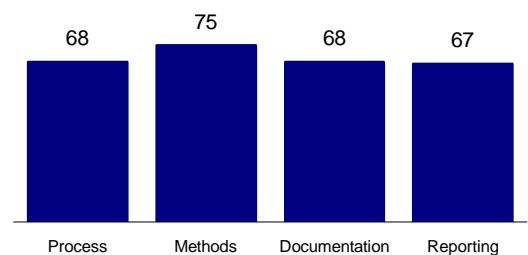


Fig. 10. Number indicating that guidelines should be elaborated – by topic

on reporting.

Existing guidelines are not too bad...

There is some level of satisfaction with the content of the existing guidelines. 20 agree strongly that they are generally user friendly while 65 agree somewhat. The guidelines are not considered to be too abstract. 23 agree strongly and 57 somewhat that the guidelines are sufficiently specific and practical. Most also find them easy to locate on the internet. It should be noted, however, that links to www.issai.org were provided in the electronic questionnaire.

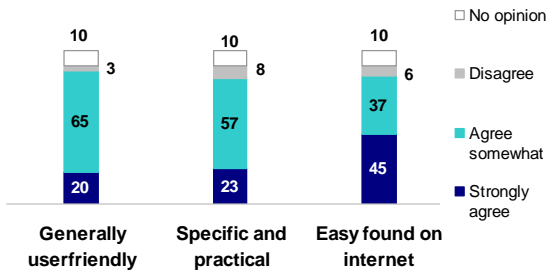


Fig.11. Agreement that INTOSAI guidelines are user friendly, specific and easily found on the internet

- but a common format would be good...

Most SAIs prefer all guidelines to have a common format across subject matter. 50 SAIs indicate that this is a suggestion the strongly agree to, while 21 say they agree somewhat. These figures may conceal some differences as to what the SAIs understand by a common format.

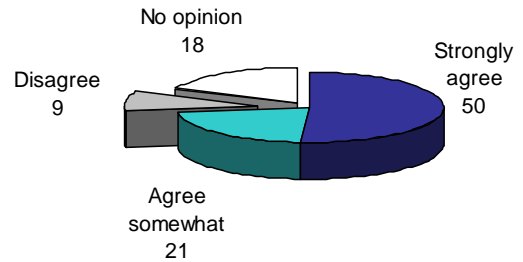


Fig.12. Agreement with the suggestion of a common format for guidelines

.. and perhaps also quicker translations.

The survey finally asked if it is a problem that guidelines are sometimes not available in all the official languages of INTOSAI shortly after final approval. Many SAIs say they have no opinion on this matter. Among those who have, a majority found that it is a problem. These answers come from all regions of the world from SAIs in French, Spanish, German and Arabic speaking countries as well as countries of other languages.

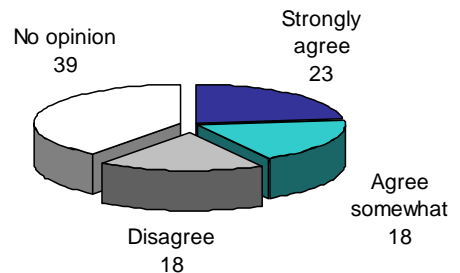


Fig.13. Agreement with the suggestion that late translation of guidelines is a problem

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Data report

Appendix 2 – Cross tabulations

Appendix 1

Data report

Background information about the SAI 's

Q2. In which regional INTOSAI working group(s), does your SAI belong?	Abs. No.	Perc.
African Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI)	15	15%
Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI)	10	10%
Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI)	24	24%
Caribbean Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (CAROSAI)	6	6%
European Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (EUROSAI)	36	36%
Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS)	13	13%
South Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (SPASAI)	7	7%
My SAI does not belong to any regional organisation.	2	2%
Unanswered	0	0%
Basis	100	

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Multiple answers

Q3. Which of the following describes your institution best?	Abs. No.	Perc.
Auditor General and/or Comptroller	56	56%
Court, Chamber of Accounts	20	20%
Board Model	9	9%
Inspector General	0	0%
Other	15	15%
Unanswered	0	0%
Basis	100	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q4. How many persons are currently employed in your audit institution? (Include all staff)	Abs. No.	Perc.
<9	2	2%
10-49	8	8%
50-89	9	9%
90-299	28	28%

300-499	9	9%
500<	44	44%
Unanswered	0	0%
Basis	100	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Application of Professional Auditing Standards in the SAI's

Q5. Please indicate which standards are applied by your SAI in connection with the following audit activities:	Financial audit	Compliance audit	Performance audit	Jurisdictional function (court model)	Advisory function	Ombudsman function	Program me evaluation	Other activities	N/A
	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.
1. Professional Auditing Standards issued by INTOSAI.	70	67	64	3	7	3	21	9	22
2. Standards developed at the regional level of INTOSAI, e.g. ASOSAI, EUROSAI, etc.	22	22	26	2	5	0	10	3	69
3. International standards on auditing of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) and International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).	59	33	21	2	1	1	6	7	37
4. International standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA).	12	11	7	1	0	0	2	5	79
5. Standards developed by standard-setting bodies in other countries; e.g. Australian National Audit Office; Auditing Standards, USA's Yellow Book or similar.	12	9	15	0	1	0	4	4	77
6. National standards for public sector auditing (e.g. developed by the SAI or other national authority).	49	43	39	9	6	4	20	9	48
7. National standards developed for private sector auditing.	27	10	9	0	1	0	2	2	72
8. Other standards	10	8	9	2	1	0	1	3	85
Basis: 100									

Question type: Multiple answers

Q6. Please state whether your SAI has any plans of changing the current status and/or application of International standards in the future:	Abs. No.	Perc.
1. My SAI has presently no plans of changing the status or application of international standards.	22	22%
2. My SAI is working to increase the application of international standards throughout audit work within the SAI (e.g. through workshops, capacity building or re-writing of internal guidelines).	56	56%
3. International standards are foreseen to become incorporated into national legislation in the near future (direct incorporation).	6	6%
4. My SAI (or other national authority) is currently drafting national standards that will be legally binding for public sector auditing in my country on the basis of international standards (indirect incorporation).	7	7%
5. Any other plans to change the current status and/or application of international standards in your SAI.	5	5%
Unanswered	4	4%
Basis	100	

Vertical percentage calculation

Does your SAI use INTERNATIONAL standards at all? Please confirm below SKIP TO QUESTION 10 If you do not apply any INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS (options 1-4 in Q5 above)	Abs. No.	Perc.
My SAI does NOT use any INTERNATIONAL standards (please skip to Q10)	14	14%
My SAI does use International standards (please proceed answering the questions below)	86	86%
Unanswered	0	0%
Basis	100	

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q7. Please elaborate on the reasons why your SAI applies international standards.	Abs. No.	Perc.
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1. Compliance with international standards strengthens the accountability and credibility of my SAI toward the surrounding society.	71	71%
2. Compliance and comparison to international standards help my SAI in its efforts to continuously improve quality of auditing processes and products.	82	82%
3. Compliance with international standards is a prerequisite for qualifying for funds from international donors.	11	11%
4. My SAI is bound by its legal mandate to comply with international standards on auditing	16	16%
Unanswered	14	14%
Basis	100	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Multiple answers

Q8. We would like to know how your SAI applies international standards:	Abs. No.	Perc.
A. International standards are used as a basis in the formulation of national standards and guidelines.	56	57%
B. International standards are applied directly by auditors in performing audit tasks.	58	59%
C. International standards are referred to in audit reports.	49	49%
D. International standards are used in developing strategy and methodological quality of the SAI.	69	70%

E. International standards are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of the SAI to external parties.	50	51%
F. International standards provide guidance to legislators and SAIs when establishing the legal framework and procedures under which the SAIs operates.	38	38%
G. International standards are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of other auditors, e.g. subcontractors or internal auditors, performing work on which the SAI relies.	36	36%
H. International standards are applied as standards against which SAIs can choose to be evaluated, e.g. through peer reviews.	30	30%
I. International standards are cited by international donors or national grant providers when describing the audit obligations of the recipient.	24	24%
J. International standards serve as a means of influencing the standards on auditing, internal control and accounting applied by public agencies other than the SAI (e.g. administrative authorities, international institutions or private audit sector)	42	42%
K. International standards are used for auditor's education and/or certification in public sector auditing.	54	55%
L. International standards are made compulsory and enforced within the national context through the practice of the SAI or by national legislators or standard-setters.	26	26%
Unanswered	12	12%
Basis	99	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Multiple answers

Q9. Please indicate to what extent international standards are being applied within your SAI:	Abs. No.	Perc.
A. The application of international standards by my SAI is an integrated part of our work routines on all levels, including auditors performing daily audit tasks.	44	44%
B. The application of international standards in my SAI is limited to strategic and developmental tasks at management level. International standards are not applied by individual auditors in performing their daily work.	6	6%

C. The application of international standards in my SAI is limited to specific subject areas of audit tasks, and not integrated into our working routines on all levels.	16	16%
D. The application of international standards in my SAI is determined at the discretion of the individual auditor.	0	0%
E. The application of international standards in my SAI is limited to a few specific instances.	1	1%
F. Other	18	18%
Unanswered	14	14%
Basis	99	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q10. Please elaborate on the reasons why your SAI does NOT apply international standards: IF Your SAI applies International standards, please skip to Theme 2.2. below	Abs. No.	Perc.
1. My SAI lacks sufficient language capacity to work with international standards, as they are most often not available in an accessible language.	2	2%
2. The rules of operation, mandate and accountability of my SAI is guaranteed through the national laws. We do not need standards from international sources.	5	5%
3. International standards are not relevant to the specific constitutional set-up of my SAI. (For example if international standards do not describe the relevant circumstances, man-date and functions with sufficient clarity and detail)	1	1%

4. No international standards really cover the subject areas most relevant to my SAI.	1	1%
5. In my country, we have nationally formulated standards for public auditing without reference to international standards.	7	7%
6. Other	2	2%
Unanswered	81	83%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Multiple answers

If your SAI does NOT apply guidelines from any INTERNATIONAL source, please proceed to Theme 3.	Abs. No.	Perc.
My SAI does NOT apply guidelines from any INTERNATIONAL source. (Please proceed to Theme 3)	16	16%
My SAI DOES apply guidelines from international sources. (Please proceed to Q12 below)	82	84%
Unanswered	0	0%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q12. We would like to know how your SAI applies international guidelines:	Abs. No.	Perc.
A. International guidelines are used as a basis in the formulation of national guidelines.	67	68%
B. International guidelines on specific subjects are applied directly by auditors in performing audit tasks.	38	39%
C. International guidelines are used by management in organising and developing the SAI.	34	35%
D. International guidelines are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of the SAI to external parties.	19	19%
Unanswered	17	17%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Multiple answers

Q13. Please elaborate on the application of international guidelines in your SAI.	Abs. No.	Perc.
A. International guidelines are applied broadly across relevant types of audit and other tasks by auditors and management in their daily work.	46	47%

B. International guidelines are only applied in connection with specific audit tasks and not across all levels of the organisation.	19	19%
C. The application of international guidelines in my SAI is limited to the management level.	7	7%
D. We have applied international guidelines only on very few occasions, where specific needs arose.	5	5%
E. Other.	7	7%
Unanswered	14	14%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Public and Private Sector Auditing: Similarities and Differences

Q14. Please describe some of the key differences, if any, between the role of your SAI and other private auditing done in your country on the audit issues listed below:	Some aspects are different between public and private sector auditing in my country		There are no differences between public and private sector auditing in my country		No opinion		N/A		Basis
	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	
1. The general purpose of auditing	81	83%	14	14%	1	1%	2	2%	98
2. The auditor-auditee relationship	65	66%	24	24%	5	5%	4	4%	98
3. The nature of the auditees' accounts and activities	75	77%	18	18%	3	3%	2	2%	98
4. The methods and principles of financial auditing	40	41%	50	51%	3	3%	5	5%	98
5. The methods and principles of compliance audit	43	44%	38	39%	14	14%	3	3%	98
6. The reporting procedure	75	77%	15	15%	3	3%	5	5%	98
7. Documentation requirements	31	32%	57	58%	6	6%	4	4%	98

Horizontal percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q15. Please provide your views on the relationship between public and private sector auditing and the need for separate public sector guidance.	Abs. No.	Perc.
1. Basically, there is no difference between public and private sector auditing in my country. There is no need for special guidance for public sector auditing.	4	4%
2. The audit tasks are similar in the public and private sectors in my country, but the specific role of my SAI in the democratic system calls for separate guidance on SAI institutional issues only (i.e. transparency and accountability, independence, etc.).	12	13%
3. The specific role of my SAI not only calls for specific guidance on SAI institutional issues (transparency and accountability, independence, etc.) but also creates a need for special guidance on certain aspects of auditing (e.g. performance audit, specific criteria within compliance audit of relevance to the public sector, etc.).	61	62%
4. There are limited or almost no similarities between public and private sector auditing in my country. International guidance on all public sector aspects of auditing would be helpful.	9	9%
5. Other	12	12%
Unanswered	0	0%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q16. We would like to know your opinion on PSC's approach for the future development of standards and guidelines:	Abs. No.	Perc.
My SAI finds this approach appropriate	81	83%
My SAI does NOT find this approach appropriate	2	2%
Please elaborate on the opinion of your SAI:	14	14%
Unanswered	1	1%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Future Development of INTOSAI Professional Auditing Standards, Implementation Guidelines and Guidance on Good Governance (INTOSAI GOV): Global Gap Analysis

Q17. INTOSAI Standards: Are there any issues not currently covered by the existing INTOSAI Auditing Standards, on which development of new standards would be relevant to your SAI?	Abs. No.	Perc.
Yes	41	42%
No	53	54%
Unanswered	4	4%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

INTOSAI Guidelines

Q18a. INTOSAI Guidelines: Should development of guidelines on the process of planning and carrying out an audit be a priority for PSC beyond 2007?	Should be elaborated		Is already treated satisfactorily		No guidance needed		Don't know		N/A		Basis
	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	
Financial audit	40	41%	44	45%	4	4%	6	6%	4	4%	98
Compliance audit	50	51%	29	30%	6	6%	7	7%	6	6%	98
Performance audit	43	44%	41	42%	3	3%	4	4%	7	7%	98
Internal control	39	40%	37	38%	3	3%	9	9%	10	10%	98

Horizontal percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q18b. Should development of guidelines on auditing methods be a priority for PSC beyond 2007?	Should be elaborated		Is already treated satisfactorily		No guidance needed		Don't know		N/A		Basis
	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	
Financial audit	45	46%	37	38%	6	6%	6	6%	4	4%	98
Compliance audit	60	61%	21	21%	4	4%	5	5%	8	8%	98
Performance audit	53	54%	32	33%	3	3%	4	4%	6	6%	98
Internal control	47	48%	31	32%	3	3%	7	7%	10	10%	98

Horizontal percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q19. If your SAI is a COURT, do you have a need for guidelines to support the jurisdictional function? If your SAI is NOT a court model, please skip to Question 20 below	Abs. No.	Perc.
Yes	6	6%
No	20	20%
We already have guidelines to support the jurisdictional function	8	8%
Unanswered	64	65%
Basis	98	

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q20. Are there any other subjects not covered by the existing set of INTOSAI Guidelines on which PSC should prioritise the development of guidelines in the future?	Abs. No.	Perc.
Yes	27	28%
No	40	41%
No opinion	28	29%
Unanswered	3	3%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

Q21. We would like to know your opinion on the user-friendliness of the format and level of specification in INTOSAI Guidelines.	Strongly agree		Agree somewhat		Disagree		No opinion		N/A		Basis
	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	Abs. No.	Perc.	
A. INTOSAI Guidelines must have different formats depending on subject matter.	22	22%	29	30%	27	28%	10	10%	10	10%	98
B. It would be desirable if INTOSAI Guidelines had some common format across subject matter.	50	51%	21	21%	9	9%	10	10%	8	8%	98
C. INTOSAI Guidelines are generally user-friendly.	20	20%	65	66%	3	3%	7	7%	3	3%	98
D. INTOSAI Guidelines are generally sufficiently specific and practical.	23	23%	57	58%	8	8%	4	4%	6	6%	98
E. INTOSAI Guidelines are generally too abstract.	3	3%	23	23%	50	51%	12	12%	10	10%	98
F. It is a problem that INTOSAI Guidelines are sometimes not available in all official languages of INTOSAI shortly after final approval.	23	23%	18	18%	18	18%	35	36%	4	4%	98
G. INTOSAI Guidelines are generally easy to locate using the Internet.	45	46%	37	38%	6	6%	7	7%	3	3%	98

Horizontal percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

INTOSAI Guidance on Good Governance

Q22. Are there any subjects not yet covered by the existing set of INTOSAI Guidance on Good Governance on which PSC should prioritise the development of guidance in the future?	Abs. No.	Perc.
Yes	25	26%
No	32	33%
No opinion	39	40%
Unanswered	2	2%
Basis	98	100%

Vertical percentage calculation

Question type: Only one answer

INTOSAI Codes

Q23. In your view, are there any other issues, on which INTOSAI Codes would be helpful?	Abs. No.	Perc.
Yes	18	18%
No	46	47%
No opinion	31	32%
Unanswered	3	3%

Basis	98	100%
Vertical percentage calculation		
Question type: Only one answer		

Appendix 2

Cross tabulations

4 groups of countries based on Question 5

Q5. Please indicate which standards are applied by your SAI in connection with the following audit activities:	Financial audit	Compliance audit	Performance audit	At least 1 of the 3 (Financial, compliance, or performance audit)
	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	Abs. No.	
1. Professional Auditing Standards issued by INTOSAI.	70	67	64	76
3. International standards on auditing of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) and International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).	59	33	21	60
Countries using only INTOSAI standards				21
Countries using both ITOSAI and IFAC standards				55
Countries using only IFAC standards				5
Countries using neither IFAC nor INTOSAI standards				19

Question 5 compared to question 8						
	Q8. We would like to know how your SAI applies international standards:					
Question 5 Standards applied by your SAI in connection with audit/ audit activities	A. International standards are used as a basis in the formulation of national standards and guidelines.	B. International standards are applied directly by auditors in performing audit tasks.	C. International standards are referred to in audit reports.	D. International standards are used in developing strategy and methodological quality of the SAI.	E. International standards are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of the SAI to external parties.	F. International standards provide guidance to legislators and SAIs when establishing the legal framework and procedures under which the SAIs operates.
Countries using only INTOSAI standards 21 countries Procent	12 57%	10 48%	16 76%	12 57%	10 48%	7 33%
Countries using both ITOSAI and IFAC standards 55 countries Procent	40 73%	34 62%	44 80%	33 60%	24 44%	25 45%
Countries using only IFAC standards 5 countries Procent	4 80%	4 80%	3 60%	3 60%	1 20%	3 60%
Countries using neither IFAC nor INTOSAI standards 19 countries Procent	2 11%	1 5%	6 32%	2 11%	3 16%	1 5%

Question 5 compared to question 8	Q8. We would like to know how your SAI applies international standards:					
Question 5 Standards applied by your SAI in connection with audit/audit activities	G. International standards are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of other auditors, e.g. subcontractors or internal auditors, performing work on which the SAI relies.	H. International standards are applied as standards against which SAIs can choose to be evaluated, e.g. through peer reviews.	I. International standards are cited by international donors or national grant providers when describing the audit obligations of the recipient.	J. International standards serve as a means of influencing the standards on auditing, internal control and accounting applied by public agencies other than the SAI (e.g. administrative authorities, international institutions or private audit sector)	K. International standards are used for auditor's education and/or certification in public sector auditing.	L. International standards are made compulsory and enforced within the national context through the practice of the SAI or by national legislators or standard-setters.
Countries using only INTOSAI standards 21 countries	9	7	8	14	6	4
Procent	43%	33%	38%	67%	29%	19%
Countries using both ITOSAI and IFAC standards 55 countries	17	14	30	36	17	14
Procent	31%	25%	55%	65%	31%	25%
Countries using only IFAC standards 5 countries	3	1	1	3	2	1
Procent	60%	20%	20%	60%	40%	20%
Countries using neither IFAC nor INTOSAI standards 19 countries	1	2	3	1	1	3
Procent	5%	11%	16%	5%	5%	16%

Question 5 compared to question 9							
	Q9 To what extent are international standards applied within your SAI						
Question 5 Standards applied by your SAI in connection with audit/ audit activities	1: The application of international standards by my SAI is an integrated part of our work routines on all levels, including auditors performing daily audit tasks.	2: The application of international standards in my SAI is limited to strategic and developmental tasks at management level. International standards are not applied by individual auditors in performing their daily work.	3: The application of international standards in my SAI is limited to specific subject areas of audit tasks, and not integrated into our working routines on all levels.	4: The application of international standards in my SAI is determined at the discretion of the individual auditor.	5: The application of international standards in my SAI is limited to a few specific instances.	6: Other	7: Elaborated
Countries using only INTOSAI standards 21 countries Procent	9 43%	2 10%	3 14%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	5 24%
Countries using both ITOSAI and IFAC standards 55 countries Procent	31 56%	2 4%	12 22%	0 0%	0 0%	1 2%	8 15%
Countries using only IFAC standards 5 countries Procent	1 20%	0 0%	1 20%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	3 60%
Countries using neither IFAC nor INTOSAI standards 19 countries Procent	3 16%	2 11%	0 0%	0 0%	1 5%	0 0%	1 5%

Question 7 compared to Q 8	Q8. We would like to know how your SAI applies international standards:					
Q7. Please elaborate on the reasons why your SAI applies international standards.	A. International standards are used as a basis in the formulation of national standards and guidelines.	B. International standards are applied directly by auditors in performing audit tasks.	C. International standards are referred to in audit reports.	D. International standards are used in developing strategy and methodological quality of the SAI.	E. International standards are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of the SAI to external parties.	F. International standards provide guidance to legislators and SAIs when establishing the legal framework and procedures under which the SAIs operates.
1. Compliance with international standards strengthens the accountability and credibility of my SAI toward the surrounding society.	50	50	45	61	44	33
2. Compliance and comparison to international standards help my SAI in its efforts to continuously improve quality of auditing processes and products.	54	55	47	67	48	36
3. Compliance with international standards is a prerequisite for qualifying for funds from international donors.	8	8	8	8	9	7
4. My SAI is bound by its legal mandate to comply with international standards on auditing	12	12	10	15	12	13

Table continued on next page

Question 15 compared to Q 2

Q2. In which regional INTOSAI working group(s), does your SAI belong?

Question 7 compared to Q 8 (Continued)

<p>Q7. Please elaborate on the reasons why your SAI applies international standards.</p>	<p>G. International standards are referred to when describing the tasks and obligations of other auditors, e.g. subcontractors or internal auditors, performing work on which the SAI relies.</p>	<p>H. International standards are applied as standards against which SAIs can choose to be evaluated, e.g. through peer reviews.</p>	<p>I. International standards are cited by international donors or national grant providers when describing the audit obligations of the recipient.</p>	<p>J. International standards serve as a means of influencing the standards on auditing, internal control and accounting applied by public agencies other than the SAI (e.g. administrative authorities, international institutions or private audit sector)</p>	<p>K. International standards are used for auditor’s education and/or certification in public sector auditing.</p>	<p>L. International standards are made compulsory and enforced within the national context through the practice of the SAI or by national legislators or standard-setters.</p>
<p>1. Compliance with international standards strengthens the accountability and credibility of my SAI toward the surrounding society.</p>	35	25	22	39	47	24
<p>2. Compliance and comparison to international standards help my SAI in its efforts to continuously improve quality of auditing processes and products.</p>	36	30	22	41	51	25
<p>3. Compliance with international standards is a prerequisite for qualifying for funds from international donors.</p>	7	6	8	8	9	5
<p>4. My SAI is bound by its legal mandate to comply with international standards on auditing</p>	7	7	4	8	12	8

Q15. Please provide your views on the relationship between public and private sector auditing and the need for separate public sector guidance. cross with Q2. In which regional INTOSAI working group(s), does your SAI belong?	African Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI)	Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI)	Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI)	Caribbean Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (CAROSAI)	European Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (EUROSAI)	Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS)	South Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (SPASAI)	My SAI does not belong to any regional organisation.	Total
1. Basically, there is no difference between public and private sector auditing in my country. There is no need for special guidance for public sector auditing.	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	5
2. The audit tasks are similar in the public and private sectors in my country, but the specific role of my SAI in the democratic system calls for separate guidance on SAI institutional issues only (i.e. transparency and accountability, independence, etc.	2	0	1	0	6	3	0	0	12
3. The specific role of my SAI not only calls for specific guidance on SAI institutional issues (transparency and accountability, independence, etc.) but also creates a need for special guidance on certain aspects of auditing (e.g. performance audit, spec	8	5	15	3	17	6	2	1	57
4. There are limited or almost no similarities between public and private sector auditing in my country. International guidance on all public sector aspects of auditing would be helpful.	1	2	2	0	5	2	0	0	12
Please elaborate in your own words the opinion of your SAI on the relationship between private and public sector auditing and the need for special public sector guidance:	4	3	4	2	6	2	4	0	25
Total	15	10	24	5	35	13	7	2	

Question 15 compared to Q 2 Q15. Please provide your views on the relationship between public and private sector auditing and the need for separate public sector guidance. cross with Q2. In which regional INTOSAI working group(s), does your SAI belong?	Q4. How many persons are currently employed in your audit institution? (Include all staff)						
	<9	10-49	50-89	90-299	300-499	500<	Total
1. Basically, there is no difference between public and private sector auditing in my country. There is no need for special guidance for public sector auditing.	0	0	0	1	0	3	4
2. The audit tasks are similar in the public and private sectors in my country, but the specific role of my SAI in the democratic system calls for separate guidance on SAI institutional issues only (i.e. transparency and accountability, independence, etc.	0	0	1	4	3	4	12
3. The specific role of my SAI not only calls for specific guidance on SAI institutional issues (transparency and accountability, independence, etc.) but also creates a need for special guidance on certain aspects of auditing	1	3	5	14	6	21	50
4. There are limited or almost no similarities between public and private sector auditing in my country. International guidance on all public sector aspects of auditing would be helpful.	0	0	0	2	0	7	9
Please elaborate in your own words the opinion of your SAI on the relationship between private and public sector auditing and the need for special public sector guidance:	1	4	2	7	0	9	23
Total	2	7	8	28	9	44	