



Words from the Chair

Firstly let me express my deepest support to our colleagues from France and Tunisia who once again have experienced outrages acts of terrorism against their people. We stand united in the struggle to meet these brutal and heartless forces.

From my hotel in 32nd street in New York I can see people walk happily around shopping gifts in a beautiful city dressed for Christmas. In spite of heavy police, and a slight fear that something terrible suddenly can happen, people continue to live their lives, do shopping, go to work, and take care of their families.

Today is the first gathering in the new common forum of technical experts for the INTOSAI Framework of Professional Standards. 15 representatives from different SAIs have been appointed to oversee the structure of the ISSAIs, and improve the standard setting process of INTOSAI. During a week in New York and Washington we will get presentations from IAASB, IIA, GAO, UN and the World Bank, to pick up some good practices, and get valuable input to the work plan of the forum.

Let me again thank you all for the persistent and long standing support and inputs to the work on developing the new ISSAI 4000. Let me also once again thank SAI of China for their professionalism and hospitality in hosting the last CAS meeting. The discussions we had demonstrate how far our committee has come in building professional competencies in auditing matters and standard setting issues. During the meeting we recognized several topics which we saw had to be addressed at a more general level in INTOSAI, and all the issues will be put on the table at the first meeting in the forum.

Let me lastly pay tribute to the head of the CAS secretariat, Ingvild, who does a tremendous effort to support IDI in their activities of implementing the ISSAIs. She has recently returned from two major training events with PASAI and ARABOSAI in Auckland and Kuwait city. The interplay between standard setting and implementation is crucial for successful implementation, and Ingvilds experiences are valuable inputs for the Forum which also must have an eye on education and implementation.

I wish you all a peaceful new year.

Jens

The annual 13th CAS meeting 2015 – Beijing, China

The agenda for the annual and 13th meeting in Beijing, China was mainly regarding that the Professional Standards Committee (PSC) of INTOSAI has requested the Compliance Audit Subcommittee (CAS) to update the standards on compliance audit at level IV in the ISSAI framework.



The 13th Compliance Audit Subcommittee meeting 2015 - Beijing, China

At the 12th CAS meeting in Oslo, Norway in 2014 the committee discussed amongst other the possibility to clarify the difference between attestation engagement and direct reporting engagement.

After the input from the CAS members was included in the ISSAI 4000 exposure draft, the draft was in due process put on the PSC SC agenda May 2015 - Ottawa, Canada and approved. In June 2015 the draft of the new ISSAI 4000 was launched for public exposure. The new ISSAI 4000 in accordance to the discussions at the 12th CAS meeting makes a clearer distinction between attestation engagement and direct reporting engagement. The deadline for comments on the public exposure draft was set to the 19th of September 2015. IDI, IIA and 27 SAIs have given their feedback.

The topics that were raised during the public hearing was related to the following:

- Combined audits.
- The link between the ISSAI framework and the legal framework for SAIs of court model.
- The consequences of the split between attestation engagement and direct reporting engagement.

- Explicitly expressing level of assurance.
- Giving an Opinion vs giving a conclusion.

Due to too few participants, the expert seminar prior to the annual CAS meeting was cancelled, and the presentations originally to be presented at the seminar from Brazil and ECA were instead placed at the CAS meeting agenda. Brazil raised the discussion on how to express assurance, while ECA were presenting their view on different ways of reporting.

The presentations gave an interesting background for discussing the topics of the new ISSAI 4000 at the 13th CAS meeting in Beijing, China. After the discussions, the committee went through the new ISSAI 4000-document and discussed some of the paragraphs related to the inputs from the public exposure draft hearing.

The secretariat will update the new ISSAI 4000 in accordance to the discussions in the meeting and the input from the public exposure draft hearing and distribute it to the members of the CAS for their comments prior to it being submitted to PSC at the end of March 2016. The standard will be endorsed at INCOSAI in October 2016 according to due process.

Implementation of ISSAI 4000-series

IDI-PASAI 3i Cooperative Audit Program on Audit of Procurement

A face to face workshop in Auckland, New Zealand

The workshop was held from the 9th to the 20th of November 2015.

SAIs in PASAI-region are interested in conducting procurement audit following best practices to strengthen the audit capacity of the SAIs of PASAI-region. IDI and PASAI initiated the regional programme on audit of procurement for the period of 2015 and 2016 upon approval from the PASAI's governing board members. The program is a cooperation between IDI and PASAI. This program is a component of the ISSAI implementation initiative (3i Programme) launched in PASAI in 2012. The objective is to support SAIs moving towards ISSAI compliant compliance audits, by supporting them in sustainable enhancing their professional staff and organizational capacity and performance, in conducting the ISSAI based cooperative audits of procurement issues.

The outputs have been/will be a two weeks face to face workshop on audit of procurement documented and disseminated to SAI teams, support provided to SAI teams through review of audit plans and draft audit reports made by



SAI teams, ISSAIs on compliance audit followed and ISSAI Implementation Handbook on compliance audit used and SAI audit reports quality assured. Ingvild Gulbrandsen, the head of the CAS-secretariat participated as an expert in the workshop, and will give feedback to the audit plans and reports that will be made by the SAIs.

ISSAI Implementation Initiativ (3i Programme) in ARABOSAI, Kuwait City

The iCAT review workshop was held in Kuwait City from the 15th to the 19th of November 2015. All SAIs (15) except one, sent their reports and strategies to the ARABOSAI secretariat prior to the workshop for the mentors to read through. The reports were not translated to english, but the mentors discussed them with the expert (Ingvild Gulbrandsen). The SAI that did not send its report, was not invited to the workshop.

The first day, the peer iCAT reports were distributed between the peer SAIs for reading. The following days were used on presentations and feedback to the different iCAT reports and strategies. On the last day, the mentors gave a summary and presentation of their views. Two of the participants gave their valuable feedback on the use of the iCAT tool on behalf of the whole group. Ingvild presented her experiences from the iCAT review workshop in PASAI and ASOSAI by the end of the workshop.



Participants from ISSAI Implementation Initiativ (3i Programme) in ARABOSAI, Kuwait City

ISSAI Implementation Initiativ (3i Programme) Phase II in Paro, Bhutan

The workshop was held from the 23rd to the 27th of November 2015 with representatives from the three audit streamd, financial audit, compliance audit and performance audit.

Experiences and lessons learned from phase I was discussed together with a revising of 3i products: iCAT and the Handbook. There was also an extensive discussion on the competency framework for auditors and the content in a certification program.



Participants from the ISSAI Implementation Initiative (3i Programme) Phase II in Paro, Bhutan

The Chamber of Accounts, the Supreme Audit Institution of the Republic of Azerbaijan as new member in CAS

The 6th of August 2015, the Chamber of Accounts, the Supreme Audit Institution of the Republic of Azerbaijan requested to be a member of the Compliance Audit Subcommittee. The Chair has willingly accepted their application, and the 9th of September 2015 the Chamber of Accounts, the Supreme Audit Institution of the Republic of Azerbaijan became a member of the Compliance Audit Subcommittee.

The CAS wishes to welcome the Chamber of Accounts, the Supreme Audit Institution of the Republic of Azerbaijan in our committee from September 2015.

CAS work plan 2015–2016

Month	Activity
2016	
December 2015/February 2016	Continue to process the results of the SAI hearing from the Exposure draft ISSAI 4000
March	1st CAS newsletter 2016
March 16	Endorsement version ISSAI 4000 to the CAS members for comments
March 31	Endorsement version ISSAI 4000 to the PSC Secretariat
May 2–3	Endorsement version ISSAI 4000 accepted by PSC-SC
September	14th CAS meeting 2016
October–November	Endorsement version to INTOSAI Governing Board at INCOSAI 2016, Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates

Have a nice and peaceful Festive season.

The CAS secretariat will soon take some days of Christmas holidays. Greetings from Oslo, hope to see you all next year 2016.

