
Report of the ASOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing

(for the 10th meeting of the Steering Committee of the INTOSAI WGEA,
March 2011, Marrakech, Morocco)

Respected Mr. Mihkel Oviir, Chair of the INTOSAI WGEA, ladies and gentlemen:

It is my honor to report to you on the main activities of the ASOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) since the 9th meeting of the Steering Committee in February 2010.

I. Participation in the 13th Meeting of the INTOSAI WGEA, and preparation and organization of the Work Meeting of the ASOSAI WGEA

In June 2010, 51 delegates from 22 SAIs in Asia including China, Korea, India and Indonesia etc. attended the 13th Meeting of the INTOSAI WGEA in China, and were engaged in discussions of the 2011-2013 Work Plan and a number of research projects. The National Audit Office of China (CNAO) chaired the work meeting of the ASOSAI WGEA as a side event to the Meeting, when the SAIs of Asia registered to attend the various projects WGEA is planning to implement from 2011 to 2013, and when the SAIs of Indonesia and Malaysia introduced their practices and experiences in cooperative audits.

II. Convening of China-Russia Seminar on Environmental Auditing

CNAO and the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation held the Seminar on Environmental Auditing in Russia in September 2010, which has been the 5th seminar since a regular work mechanism was established between the two SAIs in 2006. Discussions at the Seminar covered a wide range of topics, for example, the measures on environmental protection and their corresponding effects, audits of resources and the environment, and possibilities for cooperative audits between the two SAIs. Besides, a consensus was made on their future cooperation in joint environmental audits.

III. Participation in Trans-regional Programme on Performance Audit of Environmental Issues in Forestry

The IDI/WGEA Trans-regional Programme on Performance Audit of Environmental Issues in Forestry (2010-2012) kicked off in July 2010, which aims at capacity building. 7 Asian countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand, have taken part in it. At present, “Online Training” (Phase I) and a 12-day training in Indonesia (Phase II) have been completed. Some of the participating countries have submitted their audit plans and timetables, and initiated the audit implementation.

IV. Participation in the EUROSAI WGEA Meeting

The Secretariat of the ASOSAI WGEA attended the 8th Meeting of the EUROSAI WGEA in October 2010 upon invitation. Such meetings have furthered our

understanding of the activities of the EUROSAI WGEA and enhanced our relations and communication with other regional organizations.

Also, “Environmental Auditing and Sustainable Development” that was selected as Theme II of the XX INCOSAI has finalized with success. Relevant research results were adopted unanimously at the XX INCOSAI and incorporated into the *Johannesburg Accords*. As Chair to the Theme II, CNAO would like to extend our special thanks once more to the SAI of Estonia, Chair of the INTOSAI WGEA, for its generous help and support to Theme II activities in the past two years. CNAO would also like to express our gratitude again to all members of the WGEA Steering Committee for their attention and contribution to Theme II.

The ASOSAI WGEA Work Plan 2011:

1. Take active and more forceful measures to further explore and promote cooperative environmental audits as well as training on environmental auditing within Asia. For instance, the ASOSAI WGEA will continue to participate in the IDI/WGEA capacity building programmes, and implement conscientiously the Trans-regional Programme on Performance Audit of Environmental Issues in Forestry.
2. Further the information exchange with various SAIs around the world on environmental audits by the means of the ASOSAI WGEA website, etc.
3. Prepare the ASOSAI WGEA 2011-2013 Work Plan in accordance with requirements proposed to the regional WGEAs by the INTOSAI WGEA 2011-2013 Work Plan, and in association with the reality of environmental auditing in Asia.
4. Launch the cooperative audits of water issues between the SAIs of China and Russia.

Thank you for your attention!