



# COMTEMA

Progress Report  
November 2011

Presidency: Dr. Oscar Lamberto  
Auditoría General de la Nación  
ARGENTINA

## BACKGROUND

COMTEMA is the Working Group on Environmental Auditing of OLACEFS (the Latin America and the Caribbean, Supreme Audit Institutions Organization),

COMTEMA was created in November 1998 at the 8th General Assembly of OLACEFS. Its mission is to support the development of environmental audits among the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) members of OLACEFS, promoting environmental management control, and the strengthening and integration of these SAIs.

COMTEMA was coordinated by the SAI of Brazil since its creation until April 2009, when the SAI of Argentina was elected President of the Commission.

At the moment, the Commission is formed by the following SAIs: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. However, some other SAIs participate in some of the activities of the Commission and attend the meetings as observers.

The following information presents an abstract of the progress made between April 2009 and November 2011 in accordance with the Work Plan 2009-2011, as well as with the agreements reached during meetings and communications among members.

## PROGRESS REPORT (updated November 2011)

### 2009

<b>Starting on January</b>	Survey on the training needs of COMTEMA's members, by the SAI Peru.
<b>April</b>	23rd and 24th: 8th COMTEMA Meeting in Argentina Agreements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion and approval of the final Work Plan 2009-2011</li><li>• Election of new authorities of COMTEMA: Dr. Oscar Lamberto, from Argentina's SAI is elected</li><li>• Commitment of SAIs to take part in cooperative audits</li></ul>
<b>May</b>	COMTEMA web site reviewed by the SAI of Colombia. Request to OLACEFS Training Committee (CCR) of the specific information to develop the training components required by the SAI of Peru.
<b>August - September</b>	Consultation to members was carried out and contributions were received for the draft proposal of COMTEMA presentation at the General Assembly of OLACEFS, by the SAI of Argentina.
<b>August</b>	16th to 18th: Seminar of preparation for the "Coordinated Audit on Environmental Management for the Protection and Conservation of

	Natural Resources in the Amazon Region", held in Cartagena, Colombia.
	26th to 28th: First planning meeting on COMTEMA Coordinated Audit on Climate Change, held in Brasilia, Brazil.
<b>September</b>	30th: Visit of the Secretary of Steering Committee of the Dominican Republic Audit Court to the Chair of COMTEMA. Technical assistance and cooperation for that SAI were requested.
<b>October</b>	5th to 10th: Presentation of Lecture "Environment and Sustainable Development: challenges posed by climate change and energetic development for the region" for its discussion at the XIX General Assembly of OLACEFS held in Asunción, Paraguay.
<b>2010</b>	
<b>January</b>	Colombia is selected to host the 8th COMTEMA Meeting.
<b>February</b>	Development of a new Administration Protocol for the COMTEMA web site, by the SAI of Colombia.  Distribution of training documents of WGEA-INTOSAI.
<b>March</b>	4th: Preparation and consultation on the new "Terms of Reference" of COMTEMA, by the SAI of Colombia.  6th to 10th: Seminar on Observatories on Fiscal Control for the Sustainability of the Guaraní Aquifer and the Amazon Basin held in Bogota, Colombia.  15th to 17th: Second meeting on "COMTEMA Coordinated Audit on Climate Change", held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
<b>April</b>	6th to 9th: Workshop to assess the progress of the "Coordinated Audit on Environmental Management for the Protection and Conservation of Natural Resources in the Amazon Region", held in Quito, Ecuador.
<b>May</b>	Distribution of the new Administration Protocol for the COMTEMA Web Site, by Colombia SAI.
<b>June</b>	7th to 11th: 13th INTOSAI WGEA Meeting, Guilin, Guangxi, China. Participation and presentation of the Progress Report of COMTEMA.
<b>July</b>	1st to 2nd: 8 <sup>th</sup> COMTEMA Meeting, held in Bogotá, Colombia.

Highlights:

- Approval of the terms of Reference of the Commission
- Discussion of progress made
- Decisions on the Spanish translation of WGEA guidelines
- Agreement that the 9th COMTEMA Meeting will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, about April 2011.

	<p>July onwards: Spanish translation of INTOSAI WGEA Audit Guidelines and Studies: Climate Change, Environmental Accounting, Mining. In progress: Sustainable Energy. Pending: Forest.</p> <p>Portuguese translation of INTOSAI WGEA Audit Guidelines and Studies: Climate Change, Sustainable Energy, Forestry, Mining, Fisheries and Environmental Accounting.</p>
<b>September</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> : Resignation of the SAI of Honduras to its participation in COMTEMA for reasons of force majeure.
<b>October</b>	Completion of SAIs national reports for the "Coordinated Audit on Climate Change".
<b>November</b>	Preparation of the consolidated multinational report for each chapter of the "Coordinated Audit on Climate Change", by each assigned SAI.
	Registration of the domain name <a href="http://www.comtema.org">www.comtema.org</a> (and its mirrors <a href="http://comtema.com">comtema.com</a> and <a href="http://comtema.net">comtema.net</a> ) for the COMTEMA website, without affecting its operation or pages that follow as usual, being managed and hosted by the SAI of Colombia.
<b>December</b>	Start of the final report of the "COMTEMA Coordinated Audit on Climate Change", by the SAI of Brazil.
 <b>2011</b>	
<b>April</b>	<p>27th to 29th: 9th COMTEMA Meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina.</p> <p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of the Draft Work Plan 2012-2014</li> <li>• Presentation by the Presidency of 2 research projects on water issues and environmental performance indicators in governmental auditing</li> <li>• Presentation by the SAIs of audit work on water issues</li> <li>• Arrangements for WG14</li> </ul>
<b>May</b>	Final meeting of the coordinated audit on climate change. Final edition and publication arrangements.
<b>June</b>	Completion of Final Reports about the "COMTEMA Coordinated Audit on Climate Change" and the "COMTEMA Coordinated Audit on the Amazon Region".
<b>July</b>	Proposal of technical presentation for the 22 <sup>nd</sup> OLACEFS general Assembly to be held in 2012. Title: the significance of cooperative audits in the control of shared natural resources: the case of biodiversity auditing.
<b>October</b>	17th to 21st: Attendance to XXI General Assembly of OLACEFS, held in Caracas, Venezuela. Lecture on "Water use and preservation".

Highlights:

- Participating SAls coincide in the importance of the issue.
- Agreement to develop a common methodological framework for addressing water issues in environmental auditing.
- Presidency of COMTEMA proposes to elaborate a reference manual that includes the conceptual and methodological framework and case studies in the region.

**Presidency of COMTEMA - OLACEFS**

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