

Regional Round-up and Regional Cooperative Audit Project Plan

ASOSAI WGEA

For the 7th Steering Committee Meeting of the INTOSAI WGEA
May 2008, Tallinn, Estonia

I. Major activities in the past year

1. Promoting information exchange and sharing among member SAIs

The secretariat of ASOSAI WGEA has tried many ways to promote information exchanges and sharing among member SAIs of INTOSAI. Firstly, the secretariat has updated the website of ASOSAI WGEA with latest news on environmental auditing and environmental protection, which provides its members a platform for information exchange. Secondly, during the 11th Meeting of the INTOSAI WGEA, the National Audit Office of China (CNAO), as the Chair of ASOSAI WGEA, organized a meeting for 11 participating Asian SAIs to discuss environmental auditing issues in Asia for the period from 2008 to 2010. Thirdly, in October 2007, representatives from the Secretariat of ASOSAI WGEA attended the 5th meeting of EUROSAI WGEA and learnt the latest development on the topic of climate change audit---audit of the implementation of Kyoto Protocol.

2. Engaging actively in INTOSAI WGEA affairs

At 11th meeting of the INTOSAI WGEA, the SAIs of China, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Mongolia and Vietnam have volunteered to participate in the project plans on climate change and the exploitation and utilization of resources. The SAIs shared with other project team members their ideas on the plans. In order to provide more audit cases and techniques, some of the SAIs have scheduled in their environmental auditing work plan related audit projects.

In addition, ASOSAI WGEA members contributed actively to the *Greenlines* of the INTOSAI WGEA. In the past two years, many articles contributed by the SAIs of Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Kuwait and Pakistan on Asian environmental auditing were published in *Greenlines*.

3. Cooperative audit projects and research projects of the ASOSAI WGEA

The CNAO and the Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea (BAI) launched their first cooperative environmental audit project on Dust and Sand Storm Prevention (DSS) in February 2006. The field auditing was finished by the end of 2006. In 2007, the CNAO's audit report was presented to the BAI. At present, the BAI's audit report is under translation and will be presented to the CNAO shortly.

In August 2007, the 8th ASOSAI Research Project, targeted to formulate environmental audit

guidelines, was launched. Up to now, two research meetings have been convened to identify the contents of research and responsibilities of researchers. At present, researchers are collecting and compiling materials according to their respective responsibilities. The first half of the guidelines is scheduled to be finished in July 2008.

II. Regional cooperative audit project plan

As the coordinator of ASOSAI WGEA, the CNAO will organize regional cooperative audit projects according to the requirement of the INTOSAI WGEA Work Plan (2008-2010).

1. Summarizing the parallel audit project on DSS between the SAIs of China and Korea.

The Sino-Korean DSS audit project is the first cooperative environmental auditing project in Asia. Summarizing the finished project is very helpful for future cooperation on environmental audit. Therefore, the SAIs of China and Korea plan to file a summarizing report of the DSS project based on successful exchanges of audit methods and audit findings.

2. Preparing and implementing new cooperative audit projects

The Secretariat has included cooperative environmental audit project in the ASOSAI WGEA Work Plan (2008-2010, Draft). The Secretariat has sent a short survey to all ASOSAI members in order to collect information on their intention to carry out cooperative audit projects and their ideas on the scope of cooperative audits. The final cooperative audit plan will be discussed and approved on the meeting of ASOSAI WGEA in October 2008.

III. Active progresses in China on environmental protection and environmental auditing

Both the Chinese government and supreme audit institution have attached great importance to environmental protection and environmental auditing. With unremitting efforts, China has made active progress in environmental protection. In 2007, the per capita GDP to energy consumption ratio, the COD and SO₂ discharge volume have reduced by 3.27%, 3.14% and 4.66% respectively compared with the year 2006. This year, the CNAO is engaging in the audit investigation on the water pollution prevention status of “three rivers and three lakes” (Huaihe River, Haihe River, Liaohe River, Taihu Lake, Chaohu Lake and Dianchi Lake) and the Bohai Sea. And later this year, the CNAO will carry out audit investigation on the “energy conservation and discharge/emission reduction” status of 45 key enterprises in China. It is expected that the environmental protection work in China will be promoted through these audits.

Last year, after the 11th meeting of the INTOSAI WGEA in Tanzania, the CNAO, as the chair of ASOSAI WGEA, has involved itself in the INOSAI WGEA activities in a more active manner. The CNAO has participated in three project plans including “Climate Change”. The CNAO is looking forward to further and closer cooperation with the INTOSAI WGEA and other SAIs, so that we can join our efforts to push ahead the environmental protection worldwide.