



STATE AUDIT
OFFICE OF HUNGARY

SURVEY ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTIONS

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Outline

- 1. Independence of SAIs project** (INTOSAI 2001)
Target and methodology
Main message
- 2. Survey on Independence of SAIs** (EUROSAI 2013)
Background
What is the questionnaire based on
Schedule
Main results



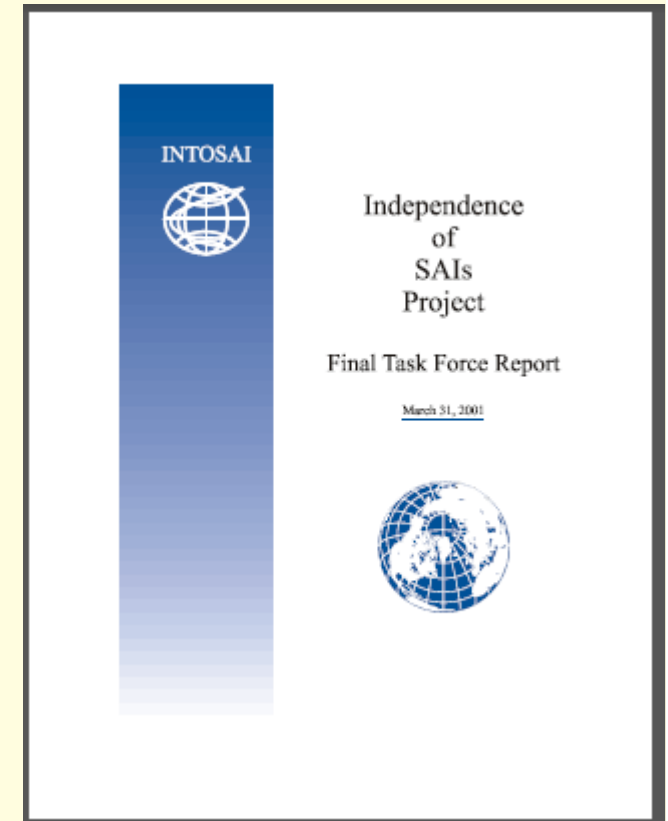
Independence of SAIs project (2001)

Target: Supreme Audit Institutions except those of the EUROSAI region
Addressed 137 SAIs
(reached 126 SAIs /113 responded)

Methodology: questionnaire and consultations with experts of selected SAIs

Main message:

"It can be concluded that a considerable number of the SAIs surveyed are not really in a position to fulfil their mandates in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts."



Background

- EUROSAI Strategic Plan 2011-2017
- 4 Strategic Goals – 4 Goal Teams
- Goal Team 1 – Capacity building
- Subgroup of GT1 focuses on Independence
- The responsible SAI is Hungary
- Highlighted tasks in the Operational plan:
 - Survey on Questionnaire
 - Workshop in Budapest



Goal Team 1 Capacity building:

SG 1 - *Availability of data*

SG 2 - *Identification of needs and innovations*

SG 3 - *Strategic support*

SG 4 – *Independence of SAIs*

Questionnaire based on

- Final task force report on *"Independence of SAI project"* – INTOSAI (2001)
- Resolution A/66/209 – *"Promoting the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions"*
UN General Assembly - 22 December, 2011
- Experiences of SAOs on independence
- Proposals from Goal Team 1 members



Schedule

- 15 February 2013: questionnaire sent to 50 EUROSAI members
- 31 July 2013: deadline for submitting: 34 questionnaires returned
- 31 October 2013: analysing the answers
- 2 December 2013: information booklet
- 2014: Workshop on independence – publication of booklet

SURVEY ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTIONS

Name of Institution:

Country:

Name/Title of Head of SAI:

Name/Title of person's completing the questionnaire:

Telephone: Email:

1. Organisational independence

1/1. Where does your SAI derive its audit mandate from?

Constitution / Fundamental law:
When did the latest modification of the Constitution / Fundamental law concerning your SAI's independence take place*?

Organisational law:
When did the latest modification of the organisational law concerning on your SAI's independence take place*?

* If the Constitution / Organisational law hasn't been modified yet, when did it enter into force or was adopted by the National Assembly?

1/2. Does your SAI work as an autonomous organisation?

YES - Go to 1/3, skip 1/4

NO - Skip 1/3, go to 1/4

1/3. 'Please specify the bodies/persons your SAI is accountable/subordinated to?'

Legislative

Judiciary

Head of State

Other part of the Executive Branch - please specify

None of the above - please specify

1/4. As a part of which organisation (if any) does your SAI work?

1/5. Is your SAI independent from any other organisations during its audit activity?

YES

NO (please specify)

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Main results of the survey

1. Organisational independence

- *mandate derived from (constitution, organisational law)*
 - *autonomous organisation*
 - *independence during the audit activity*
 - *accountable/ subordinated to which organisation*
 - *independence from any other organisation*
 - *structure (single head, or collegial body)*
 - *mandate to set up the organisational structure*
-

Main results of the survey

2. Personal / administrative independence

Absolute conflict of interest

- *who can be appointed (such as member of government,...)*
- *possibility of positions beside SAI*
- *possibility of another employment beside SAI*
- *possibility of familial relationship*

Relative conflict of interest

- *possibility of participating audits of specific organisations*

Nomination, election, appointment, removal of Heads of SAI

Legal mandate of Heads of SAI

Main results of the Survey

3. Statutory independence

Mandate on audits

- *constitution, organisational act*
- *audit plan*
- *audit approach, and methods*
- *selection of auditees*

Report on audits

- *right to contest (dispute) of the content, findings of reports*
- *deciding on contents of reports*
- *report to which organisation*
- *publicity of reports*

Auditing of accounts and/or performance of SAIs

Main results of the Survey

4. Financial independence

Independent chapter

Planning of the budget

Implementation of the budget

5. Questions relating to EUROSAI Strategic plan

Main conclusion:

"SAIs of the EUROSAI community are in a position to fulfil their mandates in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Lima and Mexico Declaration and UN General Assembly Resolution according to their answer given in 2013."

Thank you for your attention !

Further information:
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