

Terms of Reference for the EUROSAI Project Group to establish a steering committee for the IV Young EUROSAI (YES) conference, London, Autumn 2019

1. General provisions

1.1 Name of the Project Group:

Steering committee to support the fourth Young EUROSAI (YES) conference, London 2019

1.2 Background and objective of the Project Group:

Background

The UK National Audit Office (NAO) will host the fourth Young EUROSAI (YES) conference in London, November 2019 (exact dates TBC).

- **September 2017** was the Third YES Conference in Estonia.
- **November 2015** was the the Second YES Conference in Israel.
- **November 2013** was the First YES conference in the Netherlands.

The three conferences explored how young audit professionals can work together to help SAIs become more relevant to citizens by embracing technology in how we audit and how we communicate the results of our work.

Time has passed since the first YES conference, but technological and social developments continue to raise basic questions regarding the fulfillment of our mission as Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in the societies in which we operate. In order to continue to address the theme of the three previous conferences, and to ensure the conference is of maximum relevance to EUROSAI, the NAO is proposing to establish a steering committee to advise on the content of the conference.

Objective

The objective for this project group is to provide advice and support developing the content of the Fourth YES conference.

1.3 Link with EUROSAI Strategic Plan:

The nature and aims of this Project Group are entirely in line with the EUROSAI Strategic Plan 2017-2023:

1. Supporting effective, innovative and relevant audits by promoting and brokering professional cooperation;

2. Helping SAIs deal with new opportunities and challenges by supporting and facilitating their institutional capacity development.

In particular they satisfy the following strategic goal.

1.3.1. Strategic Goals:

Strategic Goal 1, objective 1.3.1

To facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experience within EUROSAI and with external stakeholders and partners

- A 'market place' – that is easily and swiftly accessible – exists for the exchange of knowledge, audit skills, expertise and experts.
- EUROSAI brokers best practices, innovation initiatives and public sector audit-related knowledge between members, **within specific focus groups such as YES!** and during specially arranged events.
- Members make effective use of available databases, products and experiences of others engaged in the external audit field.

1.3.2. No duplication or overlaps with other activities of the EUROSAI Strategic Plan:

Goal 1 co-chairs (Czech Republic and Germany) have advised that there are no other Project Groups addressing this particular aspect of external public audit.

2. Structural provisions

2.1 Lead SAI:

UK NAO

2.2 Contact person(s):

Head of International: Kevin Summersgill kevin.summersgill@nao.org.uk

NB Please cc the following multi-user mailbox: international@nao.org.uk

2.3 Participants:

We envisage establishing a small steering committee of representatives from approximately 6 SAIs. We intend to contact previous hosts (The Netherlands, Israel and Estonia) as well as SAIs who have already expressed an interest in being involved.

3. Technical and procedural provisions

Intended results and benefits to EUROSAI Membership:

1. Help ensure the relevance of the conference to EUROSAI members
2. Help capture the experience of hosting YES to help the next hosts.

3.3 Duration & Key Milestones:

- December 2018 – First 'Virtual meeting of the Steering Committee via VTC'.
- March 2019 – Second 'Virtual meeting of the Steering Committee via VTC'.

- June 2019 – Third ‘Virtual meeting of the Steering Committee via VTC’.
- September 2019 – Fourth and final ‘Virtual meeting of the Steering Committee via VTC’.
- November 2019 – Fourth YES conference, hosted at the NAO headquarters, London.
- January 2020 – output finalised; consider drafting article for EUROSAI *Innovations Newsletter* or annual *Magazine*

3.4 Working Methods:

To make the best use of our resources, representatives of each SAI involved will hold ‘virtual conferences’ via VTC, supported by email exchanges in between. Although these will be finalised closer to the time, preliminary subjects for each VTC are:

- **December 2018** – develop and agree conference project plan, vision, strategy and resourcing
- **March 2019** – Confirm topic of conference and ensure preparations are on track
- **June 2019** – Finalise conference materials to be shared in advance, and confirm preparations are on track
- **September 2019** – Confirm all materials and preparations are ready

Post the conference, we intend to invite the Steering Committee members to help document the experience of preparing and hosting a YES conference for use by future hosts.

3.5 Necessary resources:

The NAO YES project team will host the YES conference, and arrange all Steering Committee VTCs, and lead the production of the final output. Steering committee members may be asked to take on the preparation of specific materials for the conference, which will be on a voluntary basis.

As meetings will be virtual, there should be no travel and subsistence costs for the steering committee members. The only resource which will be required is time and brain power.

3.6. Reference documents and materials:

Participants may wish to access the websites of the previous conferences:

- [YES 2017](#)
- [YES 2015](#)
- [YES 2013](#)