

9th MEETING OF EUROSAI GOAL TEAM 4

The Hague, 24-25 September 2015

SUMMARY OF AGREEMENTS (SoA)

- I. The **EUROSAI Goal Team 4 – Governance and Communication (GT4)** 9th plenary meeting was held in The Hague, on 24 and 25 September 2015.

The following representatives of GT4 members and invited experts attended the 9th GT4 plenary meeting:

SAI		Representatives
NETHERLANDS	Current Presidency	André van Ommeren (chair) Hayo van der Wal Marijn Wilbrink Olga Rademakers Sanne Trienekens (Magazine & Lime Survey) Sanne Kouwenhoven (Evaluation) Fanny Melker (Evaluation) Juliette van Adrichem (Evaluation)
CZECH REPUBLIC	Chair of Goal Team 3	Zuzana Holoubková Regina Charyparová
GERMANY	Chair of Goal Team 2	Arne Steenken Stefanie Ludes
HUNGARY	Chair of Goal Team 1	Peter Danko Rita Laczkovich
INTOSAI Development Initiative	Invited expert	Riselia Duarte Bezerra
POLAND	Invited expert	Agnieszka Morawska
PORTUGAL	Outgoing Presidency	Helena Abreu Lopes
SPAIN	Secretariat	Karen Ortiz Finnemore Alicia Garcia del Castillo
TURKEY	Incoming Presidency	Azmi Es Berna Dinç
UNITED KINGDOM	Invited expert	Helene Morpeth

II. Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted as follows:

1. Welcome and general information	
<i>Issues to be discussed</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of the meeting • Approval of the agenda • General information 	
2. GT4 Operational Plan	
2.1 Task Group Sustainability	(The Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, The Czech Republic)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ INTOSAI Task Force Strategic Planning ➢ Forthcoming INTOSAI Governing Board ➢ OLACEFS - EUROSAI Conference ➢ ARABOSAI - EUROSAI Conference ➢ IDI • Financial issues, criteria for granting funds 	
2.2 Task Group Training Issues	(The Czech Republic, Spain, Germany, Portugal)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on training activities and issues 	
2.3 Task Group Communication	(The Netherlands, Spain, The Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on website use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Including use of surveys • Support to the secretariat in the communication tasks • Recommendations on the improvement and promotion of the EUROSAI Magazine • MOOCs for knowledge sharing in EUROSAI • Lessons learnt from using LimeSurvey 	

2.4 Task Group Strategy

(The Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, Portugal, invited GT4 experts (INTOSAI Director Strategic Planning and United Kingdom)

- Development strategy 2017 - 2023

Presidency programme information

- Culture & Leadership
- Delivering the message
- Open Data
- Healthcare
- Extractive industries

2.5 Task Group Strategy

- Young EUROSAI

(Phase I team: The Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, Portugal, Germany, Poland, United Kingdom, INTOSAI Director Strategic Planning)

Independent evaluation on governance and modus operandi

- Self-assessment Work Plan
- Self-assessment survey proposal
- External scan

3. GT4 issues

- GT4 Annual Report
- GT Operational Plan updates
- GT4 Working Plan

4. Other issues

- 25th Anniversary EUROSAI
- Next GT4 meeting: April 2016, where (possibly a videoconference in between)
- Feedback on the meeting
- Any other business

5. Closing of the meeting

III. Agreements reached

Under each theme of the Agenda, the following agreements were reached:

1. Welcome and general information	
	<p><u>Opening of the meeting</u></p> <p>André van Ommeren welcomed the participants, especially the new ones: Arne Steenken, Regina Charyparová and Riselia Duarte Bezerra.</p> <p><u>Approval of the agenda</u></p> <p>The agenda was approved.</p>
2. GT4 Operational Plan	
2.1	<p>Task Group Sustainability (The Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, The Czech Republic)</p> <p><u>Reporting and proposals on:</u></p> <p>INTOSAI TF Strategic Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report by the Presidency. • There is a draft Strategic Plan 2017-2022 of INTOSAI, which will be on the agenda of the Governing Board. • The plan has to be adopted during INCOSAI 2016 • It is written upon the UN Resolutions of December 2011, "Promoting the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions" and of December 2014 "Promoting and fostering the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions" • The plan has the same four strategic goals as the current plan • The plan has five strategic priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Independence of SAIs ➢ Monitoring and assessment of the SDGs within the context of each nation's specific sustainable development efforts ➢ Effective coordination among standards-setting, knowledge sharing, and capacity development to support SAIs and improve their performance ➢ A strategic and agile INTOSAI that is alert to and capable of responding to emerging opportunities and risks ➢ Building upon, leveraging, and facilitating cooperation among the regional organizations of INTOSAI

Forthcoming INTOSAI Governing Board

- Presentation by Poland.
- The 67th INTOSAI Governing Board will be held in Abu Dhabi, 10-11 November 2015.
- Most important topics on the agenda:
 - Main topics INCOSAI 2016
 - INCOSAI 2019 (decision on the hosting SAI)
 - Role of the INTOSAI Governing Board
 - Professional Standards Committee: works on revision of Due Process
 - Knowledge Sharing Committee
 - Capacity building: during the last CBC-meeting there was a critical presentation of UAE on capacity building in INTOSAI. UAE has the opinion the regions should cooperate more. This discussion is important for the EUROSAI Strategy.
- What could be the role and influence of the regions in the INTOSAI Governing Board?
- Poland will send the documents of the meeting to GT4, as soon as they are available

OLACEFS – EUROSAI Conference

- Presentation by the Presidency.
- Conference with a more interactive program: in the morning presentations, in the afternoon workshops.
- Theme first day cooperative audits, theme second day open data.

ARABOSAI – EUROSAI Conference

- Presentation by the Presidency.
- Was supposed to be held in February this year, but was postponed by the host Qatar to December this year.
- Presidency and Secretariat try very hard to organize this conference in the same way as OLACFES. Unfortunately it is difficult to get in contact with the host.
- There are still not many registrations from EUROSAI.
- There is nothing more we as EUROSAI can do, Presidency and Secretariat are working together

IDI

- Workshop for INTOSAI regions on strategic planning framework in September this year.
- Presidency and Secretariat joined the workshop.

For information on this workshop was given at agenda point 2.4 (Development strategy 2017-2023).

Financial issues, criteria for funds

- Presentation by the Secretariat
- Written procedure because of the early date of the meeting of the Governing Board (10 March)
- It is possible that the criteria for funding differ between the Goal Teams. This is the responsibility of the Goal Teams.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat has developed a template form for reporting on the requests of financial grants and guidelines on deadlines and good practices in relation to the request of subsidies from the EUROSAI Budget. • There are two remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Maybe there should be flexibility between the budget of the different GTs. Concerning their task, GT3 receives more requests of financial grants. ➢ Traditional activities are mainly based on events. This template gives the impression it only concerns events with a host. The TF Audit & Ethics has the idea of making videos. They don't have a host. So maybe it is better to adapt the terminology, use activities instead of event. • The Secretariat will further improve the template and send it around, for discussion in the upcoming meetings of the GTs. • GT4 is being asked to think about their criteria for funding. It is important all GTs use the same criteria. Furthermore they should be public.
2.2	<p><u>Task Group Training Issues</u> (The Czech Republic, Spain, Germany, Portugal)</p> <p>Update on training activities and issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Czech Republic. • GT3 would like to talk about the experiences of NCA with Lime Survey. • The updated list of EUROSAI training experts is available on the EUROSAI website. • The Database on Audits is launched this year. A template to fill the database is available. The Czech colleagues ask the members of GT4 to fill the database. • The Database of Products is operating. The Czech has the idea to approach the EUROSAI-members and ask them to send the documents. The Secretariat advises them to put a link to the template on the website. Members should fill in this templates. Otherwise it would be too much work for the Czech colleagues. • During the Governing Board in March EUROSAI-members were also asked to fill the databases. It is important this happens. • Fact sheet in paper version was presented to support organisation of training events
2.3	<p><u>Task Group Communication</u> (The Netherlands, Spain, The Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary)</p> <p>Update on use website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Secretariat. • There are more users, which is very good. <p>Use of surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Portugal. • Last meeting we agreed to expand the information of surveys of individual SAIs or other bodies. Currently there are 15 reports with authorization to publish.

- The database with survey is structured on the author of the survey. This is not a very useful if you are looking for a specific topic. The structure should be the same as it is in the databases of audits and products. This means that the structure of the website needs to be adapted. That costs money.
- GT4 agrees with the adaption of the structure. Portugal will prepare a proposal for the Governing Board (written procedure).

Support to the secretariat in the communication tasks

- Presentation by the Secretariat.
- Field of the website:
 - It is important to post news on the website, not only before the meeting, but also the results of the meeting
 - On some points the information on the website isn't up to date. The Secretariat urges the GT4-members to update the information.
- Field of the Magazine:
 - In the survey Poland suggested an Editorial Committee for the EUROSAI Magazine. Could that be helpful? This could be a role for the Task Group Communication. The Secretariat is considering this possibility of an Editorial Board. They have been in contact with the Editorial Committee of the INTOSAI Journal. The Secretariat will come up with a proposal.
 - It is clear that the idea of an Editorial Board has the support of GT4, but it is important to make it not too big, there must be a clear division of roles.

Recommendations on the improvement and promotion of the EUROSAI Magazine

- Presentation by the Presidency
- The preliminary results of the survey were presented, it only closed last week:
 - Overall satisfaction is 60%
 - Some responses are inconsistent, f.i. more pictures versus avoid pictures.
 - About 50% of the respondents wishes to receive a hardcopy of the Magazine
 - The opinion on the visual attractiveness of the Magazine is rather moderate and sometimes negative
- A more in-depth analysis will be made.
- The report of this analysis, will first be sent to the TG Communication. The TG will make recommendations. These will be shared with GT4. The final report with recommendations will be discussed in the next Governing Board.

MOOCs

- Presentation by the Presidency (Louise van Loon)
- She had a meeting with Alar Karis (AG Estonia), he took up the activity after the GB in March 2015.
- Mr Karis is working on making the concept of MOOCs work for SAIs. There are already so many MOOCs. What can be the added value of making our own.
- Mr Karis proposes to see what is already there (SAIs have their one introductory program).

	<p>We should stop talking about MOOCs and start making one, for instance about environmental auditing. He will discuss this in Cairo during the INTOSAI WGEA and later in Malta during the EUROSAI WGEA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOOCs are very interesting to share with other regions. • Costs are not precisely known, but MOOCs are quite expensive to make. Maybe we can share the costs with INTOSAI? <p>Lessons learnt from using LimeSurvey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Presidency (Sanne Trienekens) • A document with tips and tricks is sent to the members of GT4. • LimeSurvey and Word don't communicate very well. • The most important tips are probably: don't get lost and take your time. • The Secretariat congratulates and thanks Sanne for her efforts. She was the first time EUROSAI-user of LimeSurvey. • Would Sanne recommend LimeSurvey? It was her first survey, so she has no comparison material. A big disadvantage of the tool is that you can't ask for additional comments. That could be a problem with the assessment survey. • Riselia suggests to contact Miner Sanchez, he is the expert on surveys at IDI.
2.4	<p><u>Task Group Strategy</u></p> <p>Development strategy 2017 – 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Presidency • There is a big diversity between members in EUROSAI, more than in other regions; many different languages • The first strategy wasn't quite bad. • The biggest challengers are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to ensure full involvement of members & other stakeholders? 2. How should the EUROSAI Strategic Plan relate to the INTOSAI Strategic plan? 3. How to remain relevant to all members as an organisation? 4. Who 'owns' the Strategic Plan? <p><u>GT4 discusses about:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of the Strategic Plan. In fact there are three possibilities: goals, objectives and key activities. The level we choose has consequences for the future. If we opt for key activities, then every change has to be submitted for approval to the GB. • It is important to ask the Goal Teams for their lessons learned and good practices. • We must realize that Working Groups needs another approach, they have their own plans. Sometimes they don't feel attached to the strategic plan. • An external view is also very important, maybe we should organize some round tables. <p><u>GT4 decided to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For now, the Presidency and Incoming Presidency Turkey will work on the development of

the strategy.

Independent evaluation on governance and modus operandi

(Phase I team: The Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, Portugal, Germany, Poland, United Kingdom, INTOSAI Director of Strategic Planning)

Self assessment Work Plan

- Presentation by the Presidency (Sanne Kouwenhoven)
- There are two remaining issues to discuss:
 - Number and relevance of evaluation criteria
 - Unanimous conduction of survey or not?

GT4 discusses about:

- What is our ambition, why are we doing this? It is missing from the Work Plan.
- Should the main questions be included in the Work Plan?
- The number of criteria. It seems to be, there are too many now. We have to keep in mind the colleagues who must respond to the survey.
- It is important to have a good methodology. Phase I is about that and about participation.
- We need questions that all EUROSAI-members can answer. They must be related to our core business.
- We should reorganize the Work Plan. In the introduction we mention the whole project. In the rest of the document only Phase I.
- Should the survey be filled in anonymous or not. If not, you can ask for additional information. IDI suggest to make the survey confidential. Then the information stays with the group.

GT4 decided to:

- Include some sentences about our ambition in the Work Plan. The NAO will come up with a proposal.
- Send one questionnaire per SAI. We leave it up to the SAI who will fill it in.
- Hearing the discussion, the Netherlands will adapt the Work Plan.

External scan

- Presentation by the Presidency (Juliette van Adrichem)
- Work Plan on external scan:
 - Studying general literature about network organizations
 - Extracting characteristics of network organizations
 - Determining criteria for research of External Scan
 - Drafting a long list of all possible network organizations
 - Drafting a final list of network organizations
 - Comparing EUROSAI with those organizations
- Concerning the criteria, the suggestion is done to take into account that we are a voluntary organisation. EUROSAI is open for all countries, it is an organisation with professionals.

	<p>Self-assessment survey proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Presidency (Sanne Kouwenhoven) • Everybody agrees on the following structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Governance ➢ The Congress ➢ Governing Board ➢ Presidency ➢ Secretariat • After the presentation the group was split up into five smaller groups. <p>GT4 discusses about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of questions. Five questions per item should be the maximum. • Maybe we should link the questions to criteria. <p>GT4 decided to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCA will incorporate the comments in the proposal for survey question. • NCA and Turkey will focus on questions on the new Strategic Plan. • NCA will include additional information on the different roles (specific terms). • NCA will come up with a new planning for the survey. • Germany, Spain and United Kingdom will help NCA.
<p>3. GT4 issues</p>	
	<p>Developments of GT1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a meeting in February, the next meeting will be in November. • An important task of GT1 is collecting the needs of the EUROSAI community. This is not enough rolled out at the moment. • GT1 would like to use the results of the IDI Survey (in stead of sending out a new survey). Hungary has sent a letter to the EUROSAI-members to ask for their permission. <p>Presidency Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture and leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ President of the NCA is very much interested in the subject. He delivered a speech about this topic during the OLACES-EUROSAI Conference last June. • Healthcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Finland is in the lead on this topic. ➢ A survey is send out. Only 53% of the members responded. There will be a reminder. When the results of the survey are incorporated, they will get back to GT4. • Delivering the message <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Hungary (GT1) is in the lead on this topic.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Topic is included in the Operational Plan of GT1 under the strategic goal "Take active steps to strengthen and support SAI independence". ➤ There was a video-conference on 21 April 2015 with The Netherlands, Turkey, Latvia and Hungary. ➤ Armchair auditors are an important issue. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hungary (GT1) is in the lead on this topic. ➤ Topic is included in the Operational Plan of GT1 under the strategic goal "Take active steps to strengthen and support SAI independence". ➤ There is a video-conference on 22 June 2015 with The Netherlands, Poland and Hungary. ➤ For this topic applies a permanent watch approach. • Extractive industries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Presidency is in the lead on this topic. ➤ Topic is launched at the GB meeting in March 2015 ➤ Within the EUROSAI community there is not much interest in this matter. The countries that are interested are already member of the INTOSAI WG on Extractive Industries. ➤ Maybe we should propose the GB not to proceed with this topic. <p>Operational Plan updates Goal Teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The updates will be distributed by e-mail after the meetings of the Goal Teams. <p>GT4 Working Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be send around next week.
<p>4. Other issues</p>	
	<p>25th Anniversary EUROSAI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Secretariat • Secretariat would like to hear the ideas of GT4 about the content of the special issue of the Magazine. • Secretariat asks for volunteers to think about visualisation. • NCA misses our plans for the future. <p><u>Suggestion being made:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An article on the second YES Conference • Reflections of Maria <p><u>GT4 decided to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TG Communication will collect ideas. • The Czech Republic will help with the graphic representation of facts and figures.

Next GT4 meeting

- The Turkish Court of Accounts kindly offers to host the next meeting in Ankara.
- Once the date for the Governing Board is set, GT4 will set the date for her next meeting.

5. Closing of the meeting