

XVIII EUROSAI Training Committee Meeting
(Paris, France, 10 and 11 May 2010)

DRAFT SUMMARY OF THE MAIN DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENTS

The XVIII Meeting of the EUROSAI Training Committee (ETC) took place in Paris (France) on 10 and 11 May 2010, hosted by the SAI of France. It was attended by ETC members (SAIs of the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation and Spain), and co-chaired by the SAIs of France and Spain. Representatives of the European Court of Auditors, the Chair of the EUROSAI Working Group on Environmental Audit -the SAI of Norway-, IDI, the Chair of the INTOSAI Capacity Building Committee -the SAI of Morocco-, and SIGMA attended the ETC meeting as guests.

The main discussions and agreements taken, referred to the following issues:

1. The ETC approved the agenda for the meeting, that covered issues concerning the ETC structure and internal operation, the development of the EUROSAI Training Strategy 2008-2011 -including financial matters-, and the pending tasks and the documents to be drafted in the view of the VIII EUROSAI Congress. The minutes of the XVII ETC Meeting were also approved.
2. The ETC took note of the final report presented by the representative of the chair of the Task Force “Review of the ETC structure, SAI of Germany, and approved the ETC Terms of Reference (ToR) drafted -that included provisions concerning the ETC composition, structure, procedures and some financial matters-. The ToR are to be made available on the EUROSAI website. The Task Force declared finished its mandate, once fulfilled the task entrusted, and the SAI of Germany was set up as the focal point for updating the ToR when needed. The ETC agreed that, in the future, it would be the Task Force “EUROSAI Strategic Plan” who should deal with all debates on structural aspects in order to avoid parallel discussions.
3. The ETC co-chair informed on the distribution -between its two members: the SAIs of France and Spain- of their tasks for performing the EUROSAI Training Strategy 2008-2011. They explained that co-chair’s functions remained a joint responsibility and this distribution would only operate at internal level for facilitating the co-ordination of works, ensuring a more successful monitoring of the different tasks of the subgroups set up within it, and trying to make more efficient and specialised the co-chair operation.
4. The ETC reviewed the development of the performance of the EUROSAI Training Strategy 2008-2011, highlighting the activities still to be accomplished. The Training Strategy has the mission of supporting and strengthening SAIs by enhancing professional and institutional development of EUROSAI members. It looks for effectively target the needs and demands of the diverse groups within EUROSAI, in a responsive, relevant, cohesive and focussed way. It searches for training well managed and operated in an

effective and efficient way, for contributing to the continuous improvement and development of public sector auditing within the Region.

Several issues were discussed by the ETC in this framework; namely, the following points can be remarked:

➤ *Strategic priority 1.- Training:*

- . Providing training: information was shared concerning the evaluation and lessons learnt from the different EUROSAI seminars and training events performed during 2009-2010.
- . Identifying EUROSAI training needs and priorities: a questionnaire for this purpose was discussed. It will be circulated to the EUROSAI members for collecting information. This information will be completed by other sources, such as researches developed by EUROSAI working groups and the IDI questionnaire INTOSAI-Donors developed in 2010.
- . Facilitating the organisation of training events: The ETC approved a practical guide drafted in this regard (available on the EUROSAI website).
- . Monitoring quality and evaluating training activities: A set of standard evaluation materials (questionnaires and final report) –included in the practical guide mentioned above- have been produced by the ETC for homogenising the assessment of EUROSAI training events and facilitating their individual and global evaluation.
- . Exploring learning alternatives: experiences were exchanged on e-learning initiatives; the results of a questionnaire on cooperation among EUROSAI members and the universities were presented, being the following step in this regard the promotion of this collaboration at EUROSAI global level.

➤ *Strategic priority 2.- Knowledge and information sharing:*

- . Improvement of the use of the EUROSAI website and publication for this purpose.
- . Promotion of experts networks on training and auditing.
- . Strengthening cooperation with EUROSAI working groups: an analysis of common areas for collaboration was made by the ETC, being identified, among others, the provision of training, identification of training needs, exchange of information, sharing of networks and databases, evaluation techniques, sharing lessons learnt, and setting links among the respective websites.

➤ *Strategic priority 3.- Institutional development:*

- . Promoting cooperation with INTOSAI and its Regional Groups: exploring how to go deeper in the already existing collaboration with the INTOSAI Capacity Building Committee, OLACEFS, ARABOSAI, and IDI; exploring new partners (i.e., ASOSAI in 2011).
- . Exploring new formulas and new areas for cooperation.

- Reinforcing cooperation with external partners: with already existing partners (i.e., SIGMA) and with new partners (i.e., Memorandum of Understanding with the European Confederation of Institutes of Internal Audit-ECIIA-).

5. The ETC supported the financial requests made by the SAIs of Poland and Germany for, respectively, reimbursing some costs of the Seminar “Performance audit of social programmes for professional integration of disables- A practical approach to evaluating economy, efficiency and effectiveness-” (Warsaw, January 2010), and financing the Seminar “The audit of public-private partnership” (Bonn, February 2011).

The ETC also supported granting a financial contribution of 30,000€ from the EUROSAI budget for the participation of six EUROSAI Members in IDI’s “Transregional Capacity Building Programme in Audit of Public Debt Management (2009-2011)” in 2010.

The ETC requested the co-chair to communicate these agreements to the EUROSAI Governing Board, in accordance with the financial provisions for granting subsidies approved by the V EUROSAI Congress, for them to decide on the financial requests received.

6. Representatives of the INTOSAI Capacity Building Committee, IDI and SIGMA informed on the activities developed in the last year and their strategies for the future. Discussion was raised on new formulas for cooperation with the ETC, addressed mainly to share experiences, knowledge and expertise; to impel joint activities; and to promote wider exchange of training materials, experts and information available in databases.

7. The ETC discussed on the papers and documents to be presented to the VIII EUROSAI Congress; namely, an activity report 2008-2011, an evaluation report of the performance of the Training Strategy 2008-2011, and a document containing ETC reflections on useful experiences and lessons learnt in the field of training as well as information on materials drafted and training materials available for the EUROSAI community.

8. The XIX ETC Meeting will be held in Madrid in March 2011.