

24th UN/INTOSAI Symposium in Vienna

The 24th UN/INTOSAI Symposium, which was jointly organized by the INTOSAI General Secretariat and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), was held at the Vienna International Centre in Vienna from 31 May to 2 June 2017.

Entitled "Digitalization, open data and data mining: relevance and implications for SAs' audit work and for enhancing their contributions to the follow-up and review of the SDGs", the 24th UN/INTOSAI Symposium focused on two themes that will be of considerable importance for the work of SAs in the forthcoming years: (i) the implications of digitalization, open data and data mining for the audit work of SAs, and (ii) the possibilities of SAs to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In this context, the participants engaged in intensive discussions on the following issues: (1) What are the opportunities, but also the challenges, created by digitalization, open data and data mining for the audit work of SAs? (2) What kind of practical experiences have SAs made in the framework of their audits with regard to digitalization, open data and data mining and which best-practice examples can be derived therefrom? (3) How can SAs – as a follow-up to the results of INCOSAI XXII in Abu Dhabi 2016 – contribute to the implementation of the SDGs in the best possible manner?

The function of the technical chair was excellently carried out by Mr Chris Mihm of the SAI of the United States of America.

The event was attended by more than 150 participants, and among these were heads and high-ranking representatives of more than 70 SAs and of several international institutions (UN DESA, UN OIOS, International Budget Partnership, the Austrian



Development Agency – ADA and the German Society for International Cooperation – GIZ).

The discussions showed that new information technologies and possibilities for the use of data entail profound opportunities, but also great challenges for SAs. SAs are aware of the fact that in times of increasingly available information they are playing a highly important role as the providers of qualified information through their audits. They, however, also know that digitalization comes with great expectations towards SAs and changes the requirements regarding their audit work. Consequently, the exchange of experiences and of best-practice examples is of great importance. At the same time, the follow-up on the results of INCOSAI XXII in Abu Dhabi showed that SAs are cognizant of the important contributions that they can make towards the successful implementation of the SDGs. Furthermore, they are taking concrete steps to put the commitment of INTOSAI in this regard, as laid down in the Abu Dhabi Declaration, into practice in the upcoming years.

The final highlight of the symposium was the adoption of the conclusions and recommendations by the participants on the last day. These conclusions serve as an important guideline for SAs concerning

SAIs CONTACTS **Audit Department** Jln.Menteri Besar, Berakas A Bb3910 Bandar Seri Begawan Tel: +673 (2) 38 05 76, 77, 78 Fax: +673 (2) 38 07 69 **National Audit Authority of Cambodia** #5, St. Duong Ngeab 3, Phnum Teklta, Sangkat Teklta, Khan Sensok, Phnom Penh, Cambodia Tel: +855-23-88 5900 Fax: +855-23-88 5900 **The Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia** Jln. Gatot Subroto no 31 Jakarta Pusat Tel: +62 (21) 2554 9000 Fax: +62 (21) 572 0944 **State Audit Organization Of The Lao PDR** Nahaidiao Street, Prime minister' office area, Vientiane Municipality, Lao PDR, P.O.BOX 10067 **Office of the Auditor General of Malaysia** No. 15, Level 4, Persiaran Perdana, Presint 2, 62518 W.P. Putrajaya, Malaysia Tel: +60 3 88 88 97 00, 88 88 97 35 Fax: +60-3-88 88 97 01, 88883084 **Office of the Auditor General (OAG)** Office Building No. 12, Naypyitaw, Myanmar Tel: ++95 - 67 - 407335 Fax: +95 - 67 - 407339 **Commission on Audit** Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines Tel: +632-931 92 20 Fax: ++632-931 92 32 **Auditor-General 's Office Singapore** 55 Newton Road 08-02 Revenue House Singapore 307987 Tel: +65 6355 4611 Fax: +65 6221 3185 **Office of the Auditor General of Thailand** Soi Areesampan, Rama VI Road Bangkok 10400, Thailand Tel: +66 (2) 2739018 Fax: +66 2 273 9693, 273 96 99 **Office of the State Audit of Vietnam** No. 111 Tran Duy Hung Street, Hanoi, Vietnam Tel: +84 (4) 6282 2151 Fax: +84 (4) 6282 2159

City of Vigan UNESCO World Heritage Site Philippines

Vigan, officially **City of Vigan**, is the capital of the province of Ilocos Sur, Philippines. Located on the western coast of the large island of Luzon, Vigan is a in that it is one of the few towns left in the Philippines whose old structures have mostly remained intact, and it is well known for its cobblestone streets and a unique architecture of the Philippine colonial era which fuses Native Philippine and Oriental building designs and construction, with colonial Spanish architecture. In May 2015, Vigan City was officially recognized as one of the New7Wonders Cities together with Beirut, Doha, Durban, Havana, Kuala Lumpur and La Paz.

When Juan de Salcedo founded Vigan in 1572, he decided to pattern its urban plan with that of Intramuros, the walled city in Manila.

The urban planners of the Spanish government also followed a basic pattern that can be observed in most old towns in the country, whose establishment dates back to the Spanish colonial period. This pattern is detailed in the *Ley de las Indias*, the Law of the Indies, and was put into force in the 18th century. Under the Law of the Indies streets were to follow a grid pattern, the center of which being a plaza or central park.

In Vigan, the central park is the Plaza Salcedo. Next to it are the administrative buildings—the Casa Real or provincial administrative office, and the *municipio* (municipal hall). A stone's throw away are the religious buildings—the seminary of the archdiocese, the Arzobispado (Archbishop's Palace), and the St. Paul's Cathedral. Beside these religious structures is the church-run school, the Saint Paul College, known in its early days as the *Colegio de Niñas*. After the full transfer of the said school to the neighboring towns of Bantay and San Vicente, the building was handed over to the Archdiocese of Nueva Segovia and is currently being occu-

piated by a retail store chain, with only a commemorative plaque at the building's entrance and the old "ROSARY COLLEGE" concrete sign at its rear reminding visitors of its past (the school's old logo, once found at the building's facade, has been removed sometime later).

A unique thing is the existence of another plaza, the *Plaza Burgos*, which is immediately beside the St. Paul's Cathedral. After the first tier emanating from Plaza Salcedo are the houses of prominent residents that now make up the preserved heritage houses of Vigan. This urban plan remained relatively intact despite wars and natural calamities that have been endured by Vigan since its foundation.

The major changes to the original urban landscape were caused by fires. The Casa Real was replaced with a provincial capitol building, the original structure burned down. The archdiocese seminary was also destroyed by fire in 1968, and it lay in ruins until the late 1990s, when part of a shopping mall was built on the site.

The residential areas were not spared. Some of the houses on Crisologo Street were casualties of fire; several houses on Quezon Avenue were destroyed by fire as well in 1952; while in 1971, some houses near Plaza Burgos burned down as well. The houses along Crisologo Street that were burned were later reconstructed faithfully following the architecture of the former structures.

Presently, there are other major areas of activities other than the two plazas, though these are still where most recreation and shopping are done. One may also go to the southern part of the city to reach the commercial area and public market. The current Public Market is a new one, as the old one (formerly the Imelda Socio-Commercial Complex), on the same site, was (also) destroyed by fire. A new mall is rising from the site of the city's first Public Market, found in the center of the business

The Uniqueness



Plaza Salcedo and Vigan Cathedral



Saint Paul's Metropolitan Cathedral



Ilocos Sur Capitol



Calle Crisologo at night



Plaza Burgos

ASEANSAI

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME II | 2017

Handover of the GIZ Support to ASEAN Supreme Audit Institutions (GIZ ASEANSAI) Project with the Chairperson of ASEANSAI

Phnom Penh, Cambodia On 25 May 2017



The GIZ Country Director of GIZ Cambodia, Mr. Thomas Waldrapp, paid a visit to the Auditor General of National Audit Authority (NAA) of Cambodia and Chairperson of the ASEAN Supreme Audit Institutions (ASEANSAI) to hand over the project management of the GIZ project "Support to ASEAN Supreme Audit Institutions". Mr. Alexander Beetz leaves the project for another assignment in GIZ and Mr. Daniel Blessing takes over the position.

During the courtesy call, H.E. Mrs. Som Kim Suor, the Auditor General of NAA, expressed her gratitude for GIZ support for both, the ASEANSAI organization and the NAA. She wished that GIZ continues to sup-



The courtesy call was followed by an intensive discussion on the new ASEANSAI Strategic Plan and the focus of Cambodia's chairmanship in preparation of the next ASEANSAI summit, which will take place in Vientiane, November 2017. ■

on this issue

HANDOVER OF THE GIZ SUPPORT TO ASEAN SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTIONS PROJECT WITH THE CHAIRPERSON OF ASEANSAI ON 25 MAY 2017

NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF ADMIN FUNCTION

ASEANSAI PROGRAM ON ISSAI IMPLEMENTATION (LTAPII) PHASE 2- FACILITATION SKILLS WORKSHOP FROM 8 TO 19 MAY 2017

GIZ - ASEANSAI ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP FROM 25 TO 27 APRIL 2017

LAO-THAI-GERMAN TRILATERAL COOPERATION INITIATIVE ON 30 JUNE 2017

ASEAN, ASSOCIATED ENTITIES TO JOIN FORCES FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING ON 4 MAY 2017 - JAKARTA, INDONESIA

24TH UN/INTOSAI SYMPOSIUM IN VIENNA

SAIS CONTACTS

THE UNIQUENESS

NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION



Dear Readers of the ASEANSAL Newsletter,

In our current capacity as the Administrative Function of ASEANSAL, the National Audit Authority of Cambodia (SAI Cambodia) is having a pleasure to present the second volume of the ASEANSAL Newsletter for 2017.

In the second edition, we would like to highlight some main activities of the ASEANSAL members, INTOSAI and a forum organized by ASEAN Secretariat happening from April to June 2017.

Moreover, in this edition, we would like to bring you a UNESCO World Heritage in Philippines, "City of Vigan", in the Uniqueness column.

We hope all esteem readers enjoy reading the articles and find them useful to our community. We encourage all ASEANSAL members to contribute article (s) or materials to the upcoming newsletter in order to make it a better platform for sharing professional experience and exchanging information.

Best regards,

CHEA SOPHAT

Head of ASENSAI Administrative Function
Director of International Relations Department
National Audit Authority of Cambodia

Address:

#5 Street Doung Ngeab 3, Sangkat Tekthla,
Khan Sensok, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Email: cambodiaaseansai@gmail.com

ASEANSAL Program on ISSAI Implementation (LTAPII) Phase 2- Facilitation Skills Workshop 8-19 May 2017, Lao PDR

Facilitation Skills Workshop conducted on 8-19 May 2017 in Vientiane, Lao PDR with participation from the 7 SAs from ASEANSAL namely the National Audit Authority of Cambodia, Audit Board of Republic of Indonesia, State Audit Organization of Lao PDR, National Audit Department of Malaysia, Union Auditor General Office of Myanmar, Audit Commission of the Philippines, and Auditor General Office of Thailand. The objectives of the workshop are (1) to enhance participants' knowledge and skills in delivering and facilitating seminars/workshop and (2) to enable the participants to facilitate ISSAI implementation activities in their respective SAs and in the ASEANSAL region. During the workshop, the method and approaches have been shared and discussed including: (i) becoming the ISSAI facilitator (ii) advocating ISSAI implementation (iii) facilitating ISSAI implementation project (iv) designing participatory learning (v) stages of the group development and managing group learning (vi) Presentation Skills (vii) giving and receiving feedback (viii) discussing leading skills and process (ix) facilitating structured activities (x) practicum instructions and preparations and (xi)

ASEANSAL Newsletter

Volume II, 2017

ASEANSAL Activity Management Workshop 25 to 27 April 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Under the cooperation with GiZ ASEANSAL, the three day workshop have been delivered to the participants from the Training Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Knowledge Sharing Committee, the Executive Committee of the ASEANSAL and SAI Myanmar, Thailand and Brunei. This workshop took place from 25 to 27 April 2017 at the National Audit Academy of Malaysia and aim to enable participants to widen their

knowledge and professionalism in planning, coordinating, implementing and documenting activities effectively and efficiently. During the workshop, the four stages of activity have been discussed: (i) purpose, (ii) planning, (iii) execution and (iv) evaluation. In addition, the workshop shared and clarified the roles and responsibilities for future monitoring and evaluation of activities and strategic processes within ASEANSAL. This included an assessment of the current document and knowledge management procedures, which are the basis for efficient knowledge sharing



Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation initiative

Knowledge sharing is the core activity of ASEANSAL. The Support to Financial Audit for the State Audit Organization Project in Lao PDR, is having the workshop on "developing a training courseware" at the SAO Northern Regional Audit Office. For the Regional office, this is the first time hosting and participating in capacity building activity with foreign experts. The nine SAO instructors are working with OAG Thailand experts on the developing the 1st and 2nd modules of the training curriculum. On the morning of June 30, 2017, the Lao trainers could practice their newly acquires skills during a knowledge sharing session for 20 financial auditors from the SAO Regional Office (Luang Prabang Province).

The benefits of the knowledge sharing are: (1) The participants learnt about the Fishbone Diagram on Audit Reporting and they will able to use it in their audit work (2) It was a good chance for SAO selected instructors for practicing the facilitation skills and have experience for the first time delivering by Systematic Approach to Training (SAT) How they work on the knowledge sharing?

The OAG Thailand experts demonstrated how to run the workshop and the two SAO instructors to work with them on the basic concept of "Fishbone Diagram". There



was big laughter in the room, when the new trainers introduced the exercise to the 20 financial auditors: The Late Pizza Delivery exercise did not apply well to the staff in Luang Prabang – and the trainers showed great adaptation skills by changing it to a "Late Papaya Salad Delivery" lesson. Through this exemplary topic, the participants could clearly understand and were able to use the Fishbone Diagram to analysis main causes of the problem. In a next step, they were asked to develop the Fishbone Diagram on provided audit findings.

Great participation, group works and participant's presentations ensured a good learning environment. Being able to support the regional office and at the same time practicing newly acquired skills proved to be extremely effective.

The initiative is part of the Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation initiative, in which the Thai and German Government support third countries with technical cooperation. The project is conducted as a joint effort of the SAO, OAG, the Thailand International

ASEAN, associated entities to join forces for community building May 4, 2017 - Jakarta, Indonesia



The ASEAN Secretariat hosted the inaugural Forum of Entities Associated with ASEAN today in an effort to strengthen cooperation for community building efforts. The forum brought together 150 participants comprising of ASEAN parliamentarians, legal experts, bankers, youth, civil society representatives, women, disability advocates and business and professional associations representing 56 entities and centres associated with ASEAN.

Dr. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community and Corporate Affairs Department, highlighted the importance of enhancing ASEAN engagement with its people. He called for entities to "work closely together to build an inclusive ASEAN community." In light of ASEAN's 50th anniversary this year, DSG Mochtan encouraged all entities to participate in the commemorative activities and to explore possible collaborations to celebrate the golden anniversary.

For her part, Ambassador Elizabeth P. Buensuceso, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to ASEAN and Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives shared her message through a video. "I am heartened by the spirit of inclusivity, openness, amity and cooperation that underpins this inaugural event—especially in this year that the Philippines serves as Chair of ASEAN, which also happens to be the 50th anniversary of the Association."

At the forum, participants were briefed on the goals of the three community pillars and how they can contribute to realising the ASEAN Vision 2025. They also learned about the privileges and obligations of entities associated with ASEAN, such as the use of ASEAN name, anthem and logo. Further, they discussed how to access third-party funding mechanism managed by the ASEAN Secretariat and its project management cycle. During the forum, entities shared their aspiration for ASEAN to further enhance engagement with the grassroots level to fully realise a people-oriented and people-centred ASEAN. They also shared their views and suggestions for the 50th anniversary of ASEAN.

During the open forum, representatives of accredited entities expressed their appreciation to ASEAN Secretariat for gathering the entities for the first time. "This forum is a great platform to meet with other organisations and entities. We found so many great opportunities to work together to achieve ASEAN goals," said Mr. Senjaya Mulia from ASEAN Youth Organisation, which is currently seeking accreditation.

The one-day forum was also graced by the representatives of Permanent Missions of ASEAN Member States and supported by the German Government through GIZ co-operation project.

(Source: www.asean.org)