Discovering the Untouched Paradise of Mandalika

Nestled on the southern coast of Lombok Island in Indonesia, the pristine region of Mandalika awaits adventurous souls seeking an untouched paradise. With its stunning beaches, crystal-clear waters, and rich cultural heritage, Mandalika has emerged as a top destination for travelers looking to escape the crowds and immerse themselves in natural beauty. For a unique adrenaline rush, Mandalika is set to become a renowned motorsports destination. The Mandalika International Street Circuit, a state-of-the-art racetrack, will host international motorsports events, including MotoGP races, attracting motorsports fans from around the globe. Mandalika is not only a captivating destination but also a champion of sustainable tourism. With a focus on environmental conservation, the Mandalika Resort Area is designed to coexist harmoniously with its natural surroundings. Efforts are underway to preserve the region's biodiversity, protect its marine ecosystems, and implement eco-friendly practices, ensuring that Mandalika remains an untouched paradise for generations to come.

Mandalika is blessed with a collection of idyllic beaches that rival the world's most renowned coastal destinations. Tanjung Aan, with its powdery white sand and turquoise waters, beckons visitors to relax and soak up the sun in its tranquil ambiance. Kuta Beach, not to be confused with its more famous namesake in Bali, captivates visitors with its long stretches of pristine sand, perfect for leisurely strolls or thrilling water sports. Mandalika offers an array of exhilarating activities for adventure seekers. Surfing enthusiasts can ride the waves at Gerupuk Bay, which boasts world-class surf breaks suitable for both beginners and seasoned surfers alike. The reef breaks of Belenga Bay present a challenge for experienced divers, advancing a kaleidoscope of marine life including vibrant coral gardens and pelagic species.

The agenda items focused on key aspects of the construction audit guideline. The first item involved discussions on the introduction and Section I, which covered the topic of construction contract procurement. Participants delved into various subsections, focusing on the planning of new construction projects, the design stage, the tendering process, and post-contract stages including the awarding of contracts and construction works.

ASEANSAI KSC Meeting on Fundamental Guideline in Construction Audit

The ASEAN Knowledge Sharing Committee (KSC) held a meeting to discuss the development of the ‘Fundamental Guideline in Construction Audit.’ The meeting was held from 5th to 7th June 2023 and attended by representatives from ASEAN member states. The agenda items focused on key aspects of the construction audit guideline. The first item involved discussions on the introduction and Section I, which covered the topic of construction contract procurement. Participants delved into various subsections, focusing on the planning of new construction projects, the design stage, the tendering process, and post-contract stages including the awarding of contracts and construction works (cont.)
The second day continued the discussions on Section II of the guideline, which addressed the construction audit itself. This section explored topics such as the background of construction audit, planning phase considerations, and execution phase requirements. The participants engaged in in-depth discussions about adhering to standards, gathering audit evidence, and effective communication during the execution phase.

On the final day of the meeting, the focus remained on Section II of the guideline. Discussions revolved around the reporting phase, emphasizing the importance of producing comprehensive and informative audit reports. The meeting also covered the follow-up phase, addressing the process of verifying actions taken by auditees and the duration for closing audit reports.

Additionally, the meeting provided a platform to address other important matters related to construction audits. Participants discussed topics such as fraud and corruption, challenges encountered during audits, lessons learned, and future directions in carrying out audits on construction projects.

Ms. Pengiran Hajah Fauziah binti Pengiran Haji Mubdi Kifli, Deputy Auditor General of Audit Department Brunei Darussalam, underscored her capacity as the Chairperson of the Fundamental Guideline in Construction Audit Meeting, delivered the closing remarks, expressing appreciation for the fruitful discussions and the commitment of all participants. The meeting marked an important milestone in the development of the ‘Fundamental Guideline in Construction Audit,’ which will serve as a valuable resource for auditors across the ASEAN region.

By promoting knowledge sharing and collaboration among SAIs, ASEANSAI aims to enhance the quality and effectiveness of construction audits, ensuring transparency, accountability, and integrity in the construction industry within ASEAN.

The Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia (BPK) recently organized a three-day International Seminar in Jakarta from 5th to 7th June 2023. The seminar, titled “Leveraging Performance Audit Impact towards Green Economy: Multi-perspectives Regional, National, and International,” aimed to promote a common understanding and perspectives on the influence of performance audits in achieving a green economy.

Green economy, an essential aspect of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focuses on achieving positive social and environmental outcomes. As part of the global society, Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) play a crucial role in ensuring the success of SDGs through audits of government programs. In her opening remarks, Ima Yatun, Chairperson of BPK, emphasized that SAIs can conduct performance audits following the principles and standards set by the International Organizations of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) to enhance the effectiveness of the green economy and SDGs.

The Chairperson expressed the hope that the international seminar would provide participants with a shared perspective and understanding of how performance audits can contribute to a better society, particularly in the context of a green economy. She encouraged discussions on conceptual frameworks for measuring the impact of performance audits and emphasized the opportunity for participants to apply these frameworks within their respective contexts.

Several factors were highlighted as critical in enhancing the impact of performance audits, including the quality of the audit strategy and plan, the thoroughness of audit reports (including findings, conclusions, and recommendations), the responsiveness and follow-up actions by audited entities, and the communication strategy for issuing audit reports.

To gather diverse perspectives and insights, BPK sought contributions from various stakeholders, including SAIs, government agencies, the audit community, academia, environmental experts, and the public sector. The goal was to establish multi-stakeholder perspectives and create a comprehensive understanding of the impacts of performance audits, using the green economy as a valuable case study.

The international seminar was conducted in a hybrid format and received support from the Public Financial Management-World Bank. The chosen theme aligned with Indonesia’s presidency of ASEAN in 2023, with ASEAN serving as the epicenter of growth.

Participation in the seminar included representatives from various SAIs, particularly from ASEAN countries, as well as national and international organizations focused on green economy and performance audits. Attendees included BPK leaders, officials from Indonesian ministries and institutions, senior officials from SAIs, and representatives from organizations such as the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), INTOSAI Development Initiatives (IDI), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), ASEAN Centre for Energy, ASEAN GPS Leader, DGs Center of Universitas Padjadjaran, and Ernst and Young.