

## The 14<sup>th</sup> KSC SC meeting, 12 September 2022

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**Agenda Item No. 2:           Opening Remarks by Mr Girish Chandra Murmu, Comptroller & Auditor General of India and the Chair of Knowledge Sharing & Knowledge Services Committee(KSC)**

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❖ **Your Excellency Counsellor/ Hesham Badawy, President of the Accountability State Authority of the Arab Republic of Egypt,**

**Her Excellency Ms. Nancy Gathungu, Auditor General of Kenya,**

**His Excellency Professor Oumarou Narey, First President of the Court of Auditors of Niger,**

**His Excellency Mr. Abdulaziz bin Mohammed bin Ahmad Al Emadi, President of the State Audit Bureau of Qatar,**

**His Excellency Minister Walton Alencar Rodrigues, The Federal Court of Accounts, Brazil,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

❖ **Good Morning**

❖ **At the very outset, I wish to thank His Excellency Counsellor/ Hesham Badawy and the Accountability State Authority of the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Knowledge Sharing Committee and congratulate them for the excellent organization of the event. I also take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Badawy, in advance of his taking over as INTOSAI's first vice-chair during the upcoming INTOSAI Congress.**

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- ❖ Dear Colleagues, over the years, we have made considerable strides to advance the cause of INTOSAI and KSC in recognizing felt needs and filling the gaps by bringing out valuable products in several areas of public sector audit. By developing GUIDs, including subject matter GUIDS, we have provided SAIs with authoritative and detailed guidance not only on what to achieve but also on how to achieve. KSC, has thus upheld the INTOSAI's long cherished position of leaving no SAI behind. By drawing on the collective professional expertise of INTOSAI's members, the working groups of the KSC have operationalized INTOSAI motto "Mutual Experience Benefits All".
- ❖ Dear Colleagues,
- ❖ We have assembled here with the twin objectives to look back and review the progress of our work against our strategic objectives as also, look ahead to shape our strategies for the next three years as detailed in our operational plan.
- ❖ I wish to thank all the Steering Committee Members for navigating their Working Groups towards new and emerging areas. Our working groups on Environmental Audit, Information Technology Audit, Public Debt and Fighting against Corruption and Money Laundering have brought out as many as 11 documents which shall be ready for endorsement in the upcoming INCOSAI. These cover a variety of people-centric issues such as audit of plastic waste, sustainable transport, climate financing, audit of sustainability issues, cyber security and data protection, audit of IT Governance, debt authorization, stolen assets recovery, and corruption prevention in public procurement. And now, we are at the cusp of bringing out a

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GUID on public procurement audit, which is in its final stages of completion.

- ❖ We have also contributed to the sharing and dissemination of knowledge through webinars, training programs and collaborating within and outside our organization.
- ❖ As we all know, this year, the INCOSAI meets in November and a new INTOSAI Strategic Plan will come into force. With the new strategic plan, we shall reaffirm our commitment to support professionalism of SAIs across the globe. We also commit ourselves to supporting supreme audit institutions to stay resilient in the face of extremely complex and fast evolving global circumstances marked by volatile political situations, calamitous events, changes in financial markets, and changes in climate. We shall also refine our strategies to ensure greater equality and inclusiveness so that no one is left behind. These priorities should inform not only the projects that we undertake in the coming years but also the general tenor of our strategies.
- ❖ Dear Colleagues! As the INTOSAI's third strategic goal, it falls on our shoulders to keep abreast of global megatrends and strategically equip ourselves to audit these areas. Our choice of projects for development of audit guidance both within and outside the INTOSAI Framework of Professional Pronouncements should be steered by an appreciation of the needs of the times and a vision that would make supreme audit institutions future ready. We should continue to explore emerging areas where the practice of auditing is difficult and the processes are yet to be established. Deliberations at various levels have revealed that there is a demand for audit support material in

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areas such as application of artificial intelligence in auditing, audit of systems which employ the AI technology, big data analytics, climate financing, sustainability, forensic audit, preventing fraud and corruption, climate change etc.

- ❖ The new Strategic Development Plan of INTOSAI is under preparation. Our working groups have proposed a few relevant projects for the upcoming plan including the development of a guidance for implementation of the principles of INTOSAI P12 on the Values and Benefits of Supreme Audit Institutions. The working group on IT Audit has also proposed to develop a Guidance on audit of IT Systems under development. Our working group on Environmental Audit has proposed a consolidation of existing environmental GUIDs into a single comprehensive document. We value your enthusiasm and foresight and congratulate you for these excellent suggestions. We have taken up these topics with the Forum of INTOSAI Professional Pronouncements (FIPP) and shall be pursuing them in our further discussions.
- ❖ One of the major challenges of our work is the audit of Sustainable Development Goals. The needs of sustainability and the needs of development are to be judiciously balanced. Auditing sustainable development involves the examination of national and international policies to ensure how they negotiate this delicate balance. Our policy advocacy and evaluation has to be backed with an appreciation of the complex dynamics of ecological stability, economics as well as the analysis of statistical data.
- ❖ Through our work in the KSC, we build the auditors of the future. I am confident that our working groups under your leadership are

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working on these issues as well as others, equally topical and relevant.

- ❖ As the Knowledge Sharing arm of the INTOSAI, we should also be mindful of the fact that a crucial factor that limits the achievement of the mandate of many Supreme Audit Institutions across the world is the scarcity of trained man power with the skills to audit complex technical issues. It is in this context, we need to collaborate closely with IDI in designing training curricula and programs for the guidance material being developed and shared by KSC.
- ❖ Equally important need is inclusiveness which appreciates and factors regional situations and aspirations. For greater reach and effectiveness of our knowledge dissemination efforts, it is necessary that the guidance we develop reflects the varied circumstances under which different SAIs operate. We hope to have a very fruitful discussion on this aspect during this meeting.
- ❖ Dear Colleagues! I am very happy to share with you the news that we have started our process of revamping the INTOSAI Community Portal. The portal has always served as a major vehicle in our knowledge dissemination efforts. The philosophy which guides us for this revamp is that knowledge sharing is a participative process. In addition to creating a dynamic repository of all audit related knowledge generated through the efforts of the Goal Committees, INTOSAI work streams, work streams of regions, the IDI, individual SAIs etc., the new portal shall feature a more modern interactive platform in the form of Communities of Practice, that shall be more inviting and amenable to collaborative efforts. It shall enable you to share documents, videos, images, news and allow you to

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communicate individually and in groups with each other. It is my suggestion that each project group should create a separate community of practice to enhance the communication within teams.

- ❖ It is my firm belief that the reach and impact of our work is greatly dependent on how the larger society perceives our work. There is increasing appreciation that our value and benefits are better realized through more robust engagement with stakeholders at all levels. I would like, therefore, to emphasize that developing comprehensive strategies for stakeholder engagements at all levels should be at the center stage of our concerns.
- ❖ I hope the deliberations in this 14<sup>th</sup> KSC Steering committee meeting will be a great step in gearing ourselves for the coming years. With these words, I declare the 14<sup>th</sup> KSC Steering Committee meeting open. I wish you all the best of happiness and health.
- ❖ Thank you!

(1426 words for 15 minutes Opening Remarks)