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## **More than 20 Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) from all over Africa strongly support the implementation of AFROSAI's new Strategic Plan**

*July 2015, by Katharina Noussi*

The African Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI) has launched the work of its two new committees in charge of capacity building and knowledge management and sharing. Both committees have been set up to assist AFROSAI in putting into action its new strategic plan 2015 – 2020.



The workshop marked another milestone in the revival of AFROSAI (see Annex 1). The strong involvement in the workshop by the participating Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs), who had all travelled at their own cost to Cameroon, was a demonstration of their ownership of the strategic plan.

Senegal and Kenya, each chairing a committee, were represented by three officials, including the head of the respective SAI. In addition, each committee had about ten other countries represented from all language sub-groups, including Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Chad, Senegal, Egypt, Djibouti, Namibia, Tanzania, Comoros (Knowledge Management and Sharing Committee - KMSC) and Egypt, Zambia, Mozambique, Mali, Niger, Togo, South Africa / the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions Capacity Building Committee (INTOSAI CBC), Ghana, Burundi (Capacity Building Committee CBC). The SAIs of Sierra Leone, Mauretania (CBC) and Tunisia (KMSC) were absent and had excused themselves. The General Secretariat (Cameroon) participated in the work of both committees.

The main result of the workshop is the revival of AFROSAI's technical committees, through a joint understanding of how the committees define their purpose and the way in which the committees and the General Secretariat will work together.

The concrete outcomes of the meetings were:

- Action plans prepared by each of AFROSAI's technical committees
- Vision, mission and values of each technical committee
- Commitment for joint leadership in the operational steering of AFROSAI by the three secretariats (Kenya, Senegal, Cameroon).

With the support of the Good Financial Governance in Africa programme by means of technical advice and the provision of an organisational development expert, both committees developed an understanding of their purpose, vision and values as well as modes of collaboration within the committee and with external stakeholders. The committees planned actions for the two coming years based on AFROSAI's strategic plan 2015-2020. Each action was duly planned according to a template attaching results, activities, tasks, and resources to each action. Roles and responsibilities were also clarified within the committees.

Through adequate steering from the chairs, and close coordination with AFROSAI, it is likely that the committees and the General Secretariat will be able to revive AFROSAI as an organisation that provides added value to its members by promoting capacity building (most importantly through the promotion of SAI Independence and the implementation of the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions) and knowledge sharing (inter alia by developing knowledge and sharing it via a database). In addition, the General Secretariat presented its plan of establishing a Women Leadership Academy.

The need for an AFROSAI position on the role of SAIs in the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) was also debated. A proposal for a resolution will be developed by the General Secretariat, which will be tabled at the upcoming AFROSAI Board of Governors meeting, 22-24 September 2015 in Maputo.

The event created a new spirit of cooperation among SAIs from all African regions with the objective to strengthen their institutional position and mandate as well as technical capacities. GIZ's Good Financial Governance in Africa programme supports the organisational development process as well as the implementation of specific actions in AFROSAI's strategic plan.

For further information please visit <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/15725.html> or contact Dr Matthias Witt ([matthis.witt@giz.de](mailto:matthis.witt@giz.de)), Dr Katharina Noussi ([katharina.noussi@giz.de](mailto:katharina.noussi@giz.de)), Tassilo von Droste zu Huelshoff ([tassilo.droste@giz.de](mailto:tassilo.droste@giz.de))



***Annex 1: Background: AFROSAI is an Africa-wide network aiming at promoting and developing the exchange of ideas and experiences between SAI members in order to strengthen the institutional position and mandate of SAIs as well as their technical capacities. GIZ's Good Financial Governance in Africa programme supports AFROSAI and its language sub-groups, committees and working groups by providing strategic, technical and organisational expertise and advisory services. The newly established general secretariat based in Yaoundé, Cameroon is being assisted by GIZ in its organisational development, particularly in establishing a business model and financial sustainability strategy to ensure financial stability of AFROSAI. With support of the GIZ programme, the new AFROSAI Strategic Plan for 2015 - 2020 was developed in a participatory manner and adopted by the AFROSAI General Assembly in October 2014 in combination with a new communications strategy, a gender strategy, financial rules and revisions of the organisational structure. The event marked the successful renewal of AFROSAI's organisation and direction. The workshop in Yaoundé marked the kick-off for the work of the two new committees which in cooperation with the General Secretariat are responsible for implementing the organisation's strategic plan.***