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The OAGS Newsletter aims to inform, engage, provide awareness, and inspire stakeholders by communicating the achievements, reforms, partnerships, and ongoing efforts of the OAGS, with the aim of promoting transparency, accountability, and good governance in the public sector.



**OAGS Visit to
Oslo, Norway**
September 2024

Office of the Auditor General Holds Staff Recognition Ceremony in Mogadishu



Mogadishu, Somalia – July 18, 2024: The Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) hosted a Staff Recognition Ceremony in the capital city of Somalia, Mogadishu, celebrating the exceptional hard work and dedication of its staff. The ceremony was a testament to the relentless efforts and commitment of the office's employees in ensuring transparency and accountability in the government's operations.

The Auditor General (AG) of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, in his address, expressed profound gratitude to the employees for their resilience and perseverance, especially in

the face of challenging circumstances. AG Gutale highlighted the crucial role each staff member plays in achieving the office's objectives and maintaining the integrity of Somalia's public sector.

"Your commitment and hard work have been vital in achieving our goals," said AG Gutale. "I urge you to maintain this momentum and strive for even greater excellence. Your dedication is the cornerstone of our success and the driving force behind our continued progress" he added.

AG Gutale emphasized the importance of continued dedication, encouraging the staff to enhance

their efforts and skills to meet and exceed the office's objectives. He acknowledged the collective contributions of the team, stressing that their work not only impacts the office but also strengthens the overall governance of the country. "Your dedication is the cornerstone of our success."

— H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, Auditor General of Somalia

The ceremony concluded with presentations of awards and honours to several outstanding employees. These awards were given in recognition of their exemplary performance and significant contributions to the office's success. Each awardee was commended for their exceptional dedication, innovative thinking, and unwavering commitment to upholding the principles of accountability and transparency.

Among the honoured employees were individuals who had gone above and beyond in their roles, setting high standards and serving as inspirations to their colleagues. Their achievements were celebrated as milestones that reflect the office's ongoing efforts to build a robust and accountable public service.

The event underscored the importance of recognizing and appreciating the efforts of public servants. It served as a reminder of the vital role that dedicated employees play in promoting accountability and Integrity within the government, thereby fostering public trust and confidence.

As the ceremony came to an end, the atmosphere was filled with a renewed sense of purpose and motivation. The recognition of these outstanding employees highlighted the positive impact of appreciation and encouragement in the workplace, reinforcing the Auditor General's commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and dedication within the Office of the Auditor General.

This Staff Recognition Ceremony not only celebrated individual achievements but also reinforced the collective spirit of the team, inspiring all employees to continue their diligent work in serving the nation with integrity and excellence.



Media Professionals Receive Training on Reporting Audit Findings to Boost Public Awareness

Mogadishu, Somalia – August 1 - 2, 2024: Taking a major step towards promoting oversight and accountability within government operations, the OAGS organized a two-day comprehensive workshop in Mogadishu aimed at training journalists on understanding and reporting audit findings.

The workshop, which gathered journalists from various local media outlets, focused on equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to accurately report, interpret and convey the findings of the Office of the Auditor General of Somalia. This initiative underscores the importance of precise and informed reporting in fostering a culture of transparency and accountability within Somalia's government.

In his opening remarks, the Deputy Auditor General (DAG), Mr. Abdijamal Ismail Mohamed, asserted that the primary objective of this workshop was to provide a general understanding of audit reports and to enhance the essential skills required by journalists when reporting on these findings. Our goal is to ensure that journalists can accurately

and effectively communicate audit results to the Republic of Somalia and other stakeholders” he added.

Throughout the workshop, participants received in-depth training on auditing procedures, terminologies, and best practices for reporting financial management issues within the government. This training is crucial for journalists to report on complex audit findings accurately and responsibly, thereby supporting public accountability and informed discourse.

Deputy Auditor General emphasized the special importance his office places on improving collaboration with the media. “Strengthening the relationship between the Office of the Auditor General and the media is vital for enhancing accountability, transparency, and the state-building process in Somalia” he noted.

In line with the achievement of the OAGS's Goal 3 Strategic Plan, the workshop emphasized the vital role of the media in advancing government accountability. By equipping journalists with the



necessary tools and knowledge for accurate reporting, the workshop seeks to promote greater transparency and accountability within the government.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Abdijamal Isma'il expressed his gratitude to the participants and the office directors who facilitated the successful conduct of the workshop. "I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the journalists who participated and to our dedicated team who made this event possible," he said.

This initiative marks a positive step towards improving media-government relations in Somalia and ensuring that the public is well-informed about government operations and audit findings. The efforts of the Office of the Auditor General in training journalists underscore a commitment to transparency and accountability, which are fundamental to good governance.



Strengthening Partnerships for Good Governance: OAGS Visit to Oslo, Norway

Oslo, Norway - September 3, 2024: The Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, recently led a delegation to Oslo, Norway, aimed at enhancing strategic cooperation between the Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) and International Partners. The visit highlighted OAGS's commitment to fostering global partnerships to advance good governance and accountability.

As part of the visit, the Auditor General and his delegation held a productive meeting with the management team of the INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI). Discussions focused on strategic

priorities within bilateral support frameworks, particularly in the areas of strategic planning and quality management. The meeting also reaffirmed the importance of the Peer-support Project, a co-operation agreement between OAGS, IDI, and the African Organization of English-speaking Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI-E). With the current agreement set to conclude in 2024, the meeting included discussions on possible continuity and further strengthening of this partnership in the years to come.

In addition, the delegation engaged with senior representatives from the Norwegian Ministry of

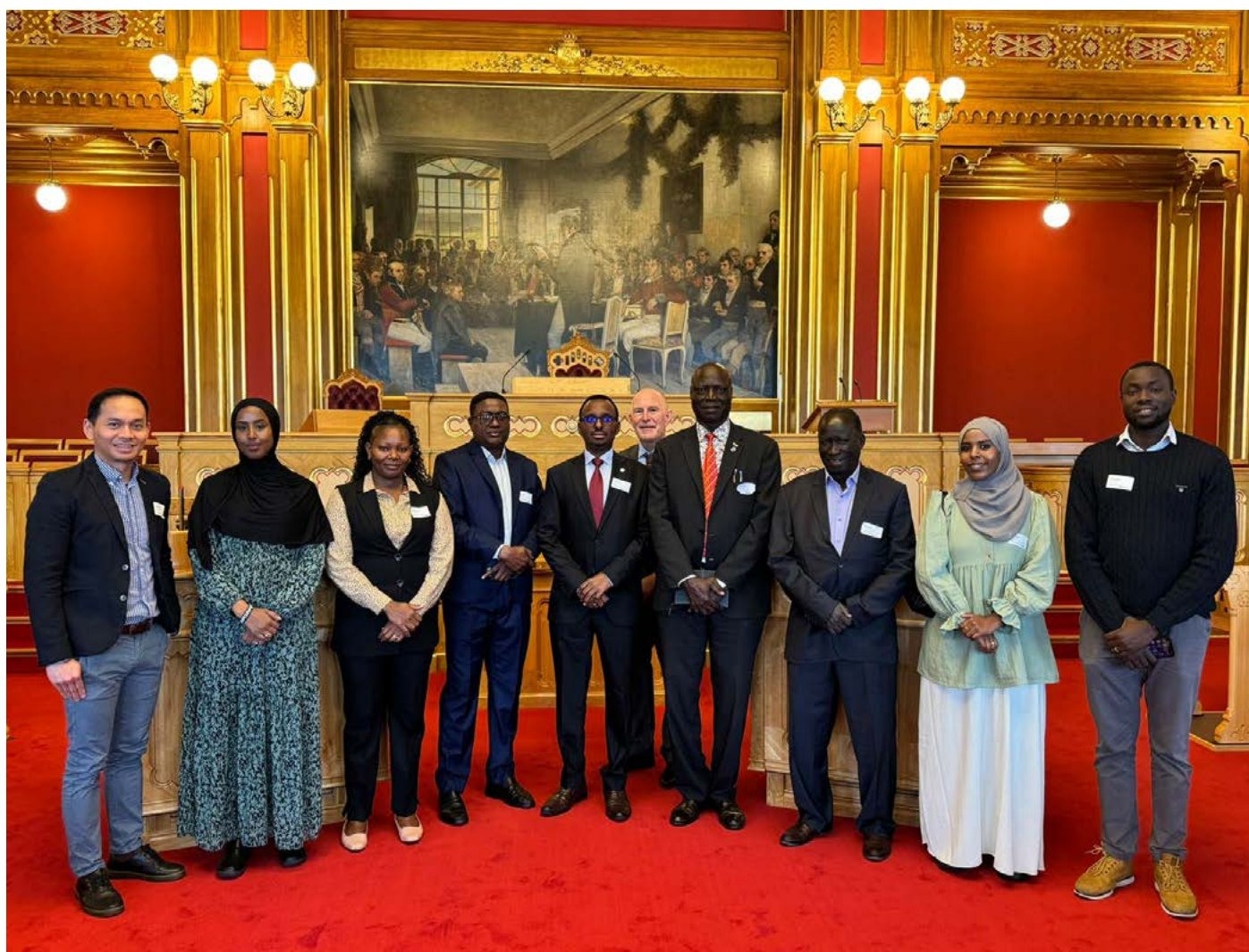


Foreign Affairs (MFA), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), and the Office of the Auditor General of Norway. These discussions centered around Norway's continued support for Somalia's governance reforms and public financial management initiatives. The meetings provided an opportunity to explore areas where Norway's development assistance could further enhance the Federal Government of Somalia and OAGS's capacity-building efforts, with a shared focus on fostering sustainable institutional growth and effective resource management. AG Gutale, expressed his appreciation for Norway's ongoing support, stating, "We value Norway's unwavering commitment to Somalia's development, and their continued partnership is critical to advancing our governance reforms".

The visit also included a tour of the Storting, the Norwegian Parliament, where the delegation met with members of the Standing Committee on Scrutiny and Constitutional Affairs.

During the meeting, both parties emphasized the shared commitment to promoting transparency, accountability, and strong governance practices. The discussions focused on the importance of oversight institutions in ensuring government accountability, and the Auditor General expressed appreciation for the insights gained from Norway's parliamentary practices in these areas.

This visit not only reinforced OAGS's International Partnerships but also showcased Somalia's dedication to building a strong governance framework through collaboration with key stakeholders. The continued engagement with institutions such as IDI, the Norwegian MFA, NORAD, and Norway's Parliament serves as a vital component of OAGS's ongoing efforts to strengthen public financial management and contribute to the overall development of Somalia's governance structures.



OAGS Publishes 2023 Performance Report on Key Achievements and Challenges

Mogadishu, Somalia – September 7, 2024: The Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) has released its 2023 Annual Performance Report, as mandated by Article 28 of the Law No. 14, 2023. In accordance with the law, the report was submitted to Parliament, published on the OAGS website, and posted on social media for transparency.

The report aligns with the OAGS Strategic Plan (2023–2027), which focuses on improving transparency, accountability, and governance in Somalia's public institutions. It highlights key achievements in 2023, including increased audit coverage across government institutions, improved compliance with financial regulations, and enhanced institutional capacity through specialized training and partnerships. A significant accomplishment was the implementation of Law No. 14 (2023), which strengthened OAGS's authority and independence.

The report also outlined several key audits conducted throughout the year, including the Compliance and Performance Audit of the Government Institutions. The report provided valuable insights into public finance management and highlighted areas in need of reform.

However, the report also acknowledges ongoing challenges, including limited resources, capacity constraints, and inconsistent cooperation from some public entities, which continue to hinder the full execution of OAGS's mandate.

Auditor General H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale emphasized the importance of greater collaboration with both national and international stakeholders to further strengthen financial accountability and governance in the public sector.



Somalia's Auditor General Speaks at Arab Forum on Governance in Baghdad

Baghdad, Iraq – September 12, 2024: The Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, had the honour of speaking at the Arab Forum for Enhancing Transparency and Good Governance, held in Baghdad, Iraq, from September 10-12 2024. This premier gathering, jointly organized by the Arab Administrative Development Organization (ARADO) and Transparency International, was hosted by the Government of Iraq in collaboration with UNDP and featured representation from international partners such as the European Union and the United Nations. Under the theme “Integrity: An Essential Ingredient in the Era of Complexity and Opportunities,” the forum brought together governments, the private sector, academia, civil society, and media from across the Arab world.

The forum covered critical topics essential for promoting integrity and transparency in the Arab region. Key discussions included strategies for combating corruption, creating strong institutions for law enforcement and governance, and improving transparency and accountability within institutions. The forum explored new approaches to as-

set recovery, including mechanisms for reclaiming assets embezzled or misappropriated by governments and invested illicitly abroad.

On 11 September 2024, the second day of the forum, AG Gutale participated in a panel session titled “Measures and Mitigation: Solutions for Corruption, a Precondition in Achieving Sustainable Development in the Arab Region.” In his address, he reflected on Somalia’s progress and ongoing efforts to address the challenges of corruption and prolonged instability. He highlighted key governance reforms in public financial management, including the recent enactment of the Law of the Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (Law No. 14, 2023), marking an advancement in enhanced oversight and accountability in Somalia.

The Auditor General emphasized the crucial role of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in promoting transparency and integrity and stressed the importance of strengthened international collaboration, legislative support, and technological advancements to foster a culture of accountability and drive sustainable development.



OAGS Workshop Enhances Accountability and Audit Compliance

Mogadishu, Somalia - October 20, 2024 : The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) held a one-day sensitization workshop in Mogadishu for government officials and senior representatives from Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) on the Law of the Office of the Auditor General (Law No. 14, 2023). The event aimed to enhance awareness of the key provisions of the Audit Law, which strengthens OAGS's mandate in promoting transparency, accountability, and effective public financial management. It also provided guidance on fostering institutional collaboration to ensure compliance with audit requirements, improve governance practices, and uphold the principles of fiscal oversight and accountability.

The event was opened by the Deputy Auditor General of the FRS, Mr. Abdijamal Ismail Mohamed, who highlighted the transformative potential of the new law. In his remarks, he emphasized that “this law marks a significant step toward strengthening public financial oversight by granting the Office of the Auditor General greater autonomy in executing its mandate. It enhances the impact of audits in promoting transparency, accountability, and ultimately improving public service delivery. The successful implementation of this law depends on the collective commitment of government institutions, working together to ensure compliance and foster responsible management of public resources,” he stated.

Following the Deputy Auditor General's opening remarks, the Accountant General, H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Anas, delivered supplementary



remarks as the special guest, emphasizing the importance of inter-agency collaboration to ensure full compliance with the new Audit Law. The workshop then proceeded with a series of insightful presentations, beginning with the Acting Director of Planning & Performance, who provided an overview of the Office of the Auditor General, including the OAGS Strategic Plan for 2023-2027. The Legal Advisor, Said Birmad then presented a high-level overview of the new Audit Law and its regulations, followed by the Director of the Legal & Archive Department, Avv. Ali Sh. Adam, who discussed the legal procedures for registering government contracts. To close the session, the Director of ICT, Eng. Abas Mohamed Ali, introduced the concept of digital contract management, highlighting the role of technology in advancing public financial management.

At the conclusion of the workshop, a dynamic Q&A session took place, allowing participants to engage directly with OAGS management. During this session, attendees were able to raise questions, offer feedback, and discuss key provisions of the Audit Law. This interactive exchange provided valuable insights, further clarifying the law's implications, setting a robust foundation for improved public sector accountability and financial management.

In his closing remarks, the Deputy Auditor General expressed his gratitude to all participants for their active engagement and reaffirmed the OAGS's commitment to ensuring that the law is implemented effectively. He encouraged continued collaboration among all government institutions to uphold the principles of transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility, paving the way for a more robust public financial management system in Somalia.



Somalia's Auditor General Joins in High-Level EAC Public Audit Planning Meeting

Mwanza, Tanzania – October 20, 2024: The Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, was invited to attend the High-Level Planning Meeting for the East African Community (EAC) Audit for the Financial Year ended June 30, 2024, held in Mwanza, Tanzania, from October 15 to 18, 2024. This meeting, which brought together the EAC Audit Commission comprising eight member countries, including the United Republic of Tanzania, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda, aimed to develop a compre-

hensive audit plan for selected EAC institutions and projects. Since Somalia joined the East African Community in 2024, this marked the first time the OAGS participated in the EAC Audit Commission, underscoring an important milestone in Somalia's development and regional integration. The meeting focused on ensuring comprehensive coverage of EAC organs, institutions, and projects, and establishing clear milestones to guarantee the timely completion of the audit.

Throughout the discussions, the Auditors General of the EAC focused on refining the audit planning



process, setting key objectives, and defining the allocation of responsibilities across member countries. The audit was carried out in five member countries Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, and Uganda—where teams of Financial Auditors from each of the eight EAC member countries were deployed to conduct the audits. The goal was to ensure that all critical tasks were executed in accordance with the agreed framework. The meeting emphasized the importance of a cohesive and coordinated audit strategy, highlighting the essential role of collaboration among the audit institutions to ensure a comprehensive and effective oversight of East African Community project.

This historic participation by the OAGS in the EAC Audit Commission not only marked a significant step in Somalia's integration into the East African Community but also strengthened the OAGS's commitment to regional cooperation and effective public financial oversight. By working alongside fellow EAC member states, the Office contributed to enhanced accountability and transparency in the management of regional projects and institutions. The audit played a crucial role in reinforcing the shared values of good governance and accountability that underpin the mission of the East African Community. The collaborative efforts of all member states were key to achieving the EAC's goals, ensuring a stronger, more transparent, and accountable regional framework for the future.

“Somalia’s participation in the EAC Audit Commission marks a historic step toward deeper regional integration and cooperation. As a new member of the East African Community, we are honored to contribute to the collective mission of strengthening public financial oversight and accountability across the region. This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to good governance and transparent stewardship of public resources.”

— H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale,
Auditor General, FRS

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY



OAGS Semi-Annual Development Partners Meeting Highlights

Mogadishu, Somalia - October 23, 2024 : Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, chaired the virtual OAGS Semi-Annual Development Partners Meeting. The OAGS Semi-Annual Development Partners Meeting is a virtual gathering where the OAGS engages with its international partners to review progress on ongoing projects, discuss achievements, address challenges, and plan for future initiatives aimed at strengthening public financial management and audit capacity in Somalia. The meeting also aims to ensure coordinated efforts among partners, preventing duplication of activities, and ensuring that support is effectively aligned to ad-

dress gaps and strengthen the overall impact of development initiatives.

In his opening remarks, Auditor General Gutale warmly welcomed both returning and new partners, expressing gratitude for their continued support. "Your continued involvement is not only appreciated but vital to the progress we have made and the journey ahead," he stated, emphasizing the importance of their collaboration. He highlighted the meeting's purpose as an opportunity to review progress, discuss achievements, and address challenges. The Auditor General also acknowledged the valuable relationships with devel-



opment partners, noting, “Together, we are laying the foundation for a stronger, more transparent Somalia.” He outlined key accomplishments in capacity-building, audit report submissions, and legal framework improvements, while emphasizing ongoing challenges that require continued collaboration and support. His remarks set the tone for a productive discussion, reaffirming the OAGS’s commitment to transparency and strengthening public financial management in Somalia.

OAGS Directors from key departments, including the INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI), delivered presentations covering several important topics. These included highlights from the Semi-Annual Performance Report for 2024, an overview of the OAGS audit reports and key findings for FY2023, and key updates on the Peer-support Project for 2024, along with planned support for 2025. They also discussed the ongoing collaboration between OAGS and the Federal Member States’ Offices of Auditors General (FMS-OAGs), as well as provided an overview of the OAGS Support Ecosystem Framework, including strategic priorities and identified gaps. The session concluded with

a Q&A, allowing partners and colleagues to exchange questions, provide feedback, and further engage in the collaborative process. “Together, we are laying the foundation for a stronger, more transparent Somalia.”

— Auditor General Gutale at the Development Partners Meeting

In his closing remarks, the Auditor General expressed gratitude to all partners and colleagues for their contributions. “Together, we have explored the activities, achievements, and aspirations of the Office of the Auditor General of Somalia, laying a solid foundation for continued progress,” he said. He also acknowledged the OAGS team and INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI) partners for their preparations and presentations. The AG emphasized the importance of ongoing support and collaboration, reaffirming OAGS’s commitment to strengthening partnerships. He expressed eagerness for further engagement and looked forward to the next Annual Development Partners Meeting in early 2025, wishing everyone success until then.



OAG Somalia and Transparency International Forge Pathway to Partnership for Advancing Transparency and Governance

Mogadishu, Somalia - November 4, 2024 : The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) and Transparency International (TI) held their inaugural meeting, marking the beginning of a significant partnership aimed at advancing transparency, accountability, and good governance in Somalia. This virtual meeting provided an opportunity for Transparency International to gain a comprehensive understanding of the OAGS's responsibilities and mandate while also enabling the OAGS to benefit from TI's global expertise.

In his address, the Auditor General of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, emphasized Somalia's commitment to reform and the ongoing efforts to rebuild trust in its institutions. He highlighted key milestones, such as the country's completion of the HIPC Initiative and the successful implementation of the Somalia Financial Management Information System (SFMIS). "Despite the historical challenges Somalia has faced, we have made great strides in establishing a stronger foundation for accountability, and our efforts continue to drive meaningful change," Gutale noted. The SFMIS, in

particular, has unified financial transactions under the Treasury Single Account, fostering comprehensive oversight of public resources and improving financial practices across all government levels.

In response to the Auditor General's remarks, Transparency International (TI) commended Somalia's significant progress in advancing transparency and governance, particularly through reforms such as the HIPC debt relief, the SFMIS, and the new Audit Law. TI emphasized its global role in providing knowledge-based solutions, conducting research, and developing anti-corruption strategies, noting its engagement with Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) to prevent corruption. They highlighted Somalia's signatory status to the UN Convention Against Corruption and recommended the country consider signing the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. TI also stressed the importance of working with civil society organizations (CSOs), media, and citizens in building a sustainable anti-corruption framework and suggested steps toward establishing a local TI chapter in Somalia.

The meeting builds on prior engagements between TI and the OAGS during a forum held in Baghdad, Iraq, and marks a key step toward fostering deeper collaboration between OAGS and Transparency International. This new partnership is poised to play a crucial role in advancing Somalia's public financial management, reinforcing accountability, and enhancing governance structures. Through ongoing cooperation, both institutions aim to support Somalia's long-term development objectives by promoting transparency and strengthening the country's capacity to tackle corruption, ensuring a more accountable government for the Somali people.

“This partnership with Transparency International represents a powerful opportunity to strengthen our collective fight against corruption and build a governance system rooted in transparency and accountability. Somalia has come a long way, and we remain firmly committed to reforms that restore trust in public institutions and ensure better outcomes for our citizens.”

*— H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale,
Auditor General, FRS*



Somalia's AG Highlights Role of SICPA at a Conference on Empowering Growth

Mogadishu, Somalia - December 2, 2024: The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) participated in the 2nd Annual Conference of the Somali Institute of Certified Public Accountants (SICPA), where the Auditor General, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, attended as the Chief Guest and delivered the keynote address.

Under the theme 'Empowering Growth: Professional Accountants as Catalysts for Economic Development,' the conference brought together senior government officials, representatives from government institutions, and accounting professionals from Somalia and across the region to discuss the critical role of the accounting profession in driving economic progress and fostering financial stability.

In his remarks, the Auditor General emphasized SICPA's central role in advancing the accountancy profession in Somalia, a key priority outlined in the OAGS Strategic Plan 2023–2025. Goal 3 of the OAGS plan focuses on raising the standards of the accounting and auditing professions in Somalia and recognizing the transformative potential of professional accountants in strengthening public financial management, enhancing accountability, and promoting transparency.

"The establishment of the Somali Institute of Certified Public Accountants is a transformative step for Somalia," AG Gutale remarked. "In a developing context such as Somalia, the establishment of a Professional Accountants Organization is essential to reducing reliance on external accounting firms



and channeling resources toward developing local expertise. By standardizing the certification process for professional accountants, SICPA will be well-equipped to produce the skilled professionals needed to drive sustainable economic growth in Somalia” he added.

The OAGS has been a staunch advocate for the establishment of a Professional Accountants Organization (PAO) in Somalia to further support this vision. As part of its strategic objectives, the OAGS is championing the Somali PAO’s membership in the African Professionalization Initiative (API) and contributing insights toward the establishment of a legal framework for accountancy in Somalia.

The conference served as a vital platform to explore collaborative opportunities between financial professionals, institutions, and stakeholders, reaffirming the shared commitment to fostering sustainable economic growth through professional excellence. By aligning its efforts with SICPA’s initiatives, the OAGS continues to play a pivotal role in shaping a more transparent and accountable financial landscape in Somalia.



The establishment of SICPA is not just a milestone for the accounting profession it is a foundation for Somalia’s economic resilience. By investing in our local talent and standardizing professional qualifications, we are laying the groundwork for a future where Somali accountants lead the charge in driving growth, accountability, and financial integrity across both public and private sectors.

— H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale
Auditor General, FRS



OAG Somalia Participates in 16th AFROSAI General Assembly to Enhance Public Sector Oversight

Tripoli, Libya – December 2-6, 2024: Senior officials from the Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) took part in the 16th General Assembly of the African Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI), held in Tripoli, Libya. The high-level gathering convened delegations from 40 countries, alongside representatives from international organizations and key stakeholders, providing a vital platform for collaboration and the exchange of best practices in public sector auditing.

Throughout the five-day assembly, participants engaged in discussions aimed at addressing pressing challenges in public financial oversight across Africa. Core topics included managing external public debt, enhancing oversight of financial aid allocation, and harmonizing efforts to improve financial governance and transparency. The assembly emphasized the crucial role that Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) play in supporting governments to achieve fiscal sustainability and accountability.



Among the highlights was the presentation of case studies by several member states, including Egypt, demonstrating how SAIs can actively support the management of public debt and ensure the integrity of financial practices. Delegates also stressed the need for robust frameworks to monitor the use of development assistance and grants, calling for greater transparency and effectiveness in the allocation and utilization of these resources.

The importance of public engagement emerged as a recurring theme. Participants underscored the value of involving civil society organizations and citizens in the audit process as a means to build public trust and enhance the impact of audit findings.

To foster regional cohesion, the assembly reaffirmed the collective commitment to strengthening cooperation among member SAIs, promoting the sharing of best practices, and harmonizing auditing standards to tackle cross-border governance challenges more effectively.

In a key development, AFROSAI announced that Morocco will host its new permanent headquarters. The next General Assembly is scheduled to take place in Kenya in 2027.

The event concluded with resolutions focused on advancing debt and grant oversight, increasing public participation in audit processes, building auditor capacity, and integrating new technologies to promote knowledge sharing across the continent.

The Office of the Auditor General of Somalia reaffirmed its dedication to implementing these recommendations and strengthening its collaboration with AFROSAI and regional partners. By doing so, the OAGS aims to enhance public sector governance, promote transparency, and reinforce financial integrity both within Somalia and across Africa.



“Protecting our institutions from fraud requires a deep understanding of the Fraud Triangle. We must recognize the pressures that drive fraudulent behavior, the opportunities that enable it, and the rationalizations that justify it. By identifying and mitigating these risks, we can safeguard the integrity of our operations and uphold the trust placed in us.”

— H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale,
Auditor General, FRS

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SAI Somalia Newsletter Half-Year Recap

The second issue of SAI Somalia's Newsletter highlights key achievements and reforms from July to December 2024. The Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) focused on strengthening transparency, public financial management, and institutional partnerships.

The period kicked off with a Staff Recognition Ceremony in Mogadishu, honoring employees for their role in promoting accountability. A media training workshop was also held to equip journalists to report audit findings accurately, boosting public awareness.

Internationally, OAGS advanced cooperation through a strategic visit to Norway, engaging with IDI, NORAD, and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In September, the 2023 Annual Performance Report was submitted to Parliament, noting expanded audit coverage, legal reforms, and capacity improvements.

Auditor General Gutale represented Somalia at the Arab Forum on Governance in Baghdad, presenting on the country's reform journey and new Audit Law (Law No. 14). Domestically, OAGS hosted a sensitization workshop on the new law for government institutions.

Somalia marked its debut in the EAC Audit Commission, contributing to regional audit strategies. The Semi-Annual Development Partners Meeting was held virtually to align support with the OAGS Strategic Plan.

New partnerships emerged, including the first engagement with Transparency International, focusing on anti-corruption and governance. The Auditor General also addressed the SICPA Annual Conference, highlighting the role of local accountancy in national development.

The half-year concluded with Somalia's active role at the AFROSAI General Assembly in Libya, reinforcing the Office's commitment to audit impact and regional cooperation.