

Newsletter



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SAI Somalia Expands Public Understanding of Audit Through Nationwide Awareness and Media Engagement...

Strengthens Accountability Through High-Level Follow-Up on Recurring Audit Findings...



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.



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SAI Somalia Releases 38 Audit Reports, Reinforcing Accountability and Public Financial Oversight



Mogadishu, August 23, 2025: The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia has officially released its 2024 Annual Audit Reports, marking a major milestone in strengthening transparency, public sector reform, and institutional accountability. During this reporting cycle, the Office completed and published thirty-eight audit reports, the highest number issued within a single period in the institution's history. This achievement reflects growing audit capacity and a clear commitment to improving public financial management and good governance.

The audits cover a wide range of areas, including financial, compliance, performance, forensic, information systems, and special audits. Together,

they provide Parliament, government institutions, and the public with evidence-based insights into how public resources are managed, how systems are functioning, and where improvements are required. The recommendations contained in the reports support stronger compliance with laws and regulations, improved internal controls, and more efficient use of public funds to strengthen public service delivery.

In his press statement, Auditor General Ahmed Isse Gutale commended the technical and leadership teams of the Office for their professionalism, resilience, and dedication. He described the 2025 reporting cycle as a turning point in building a credible, reliable, and responsive Supreme Audit

Institution. The Auditor General emphasized that audit reports are not issued to assign blame, but to strengthen systems, promote responsible decision-making, and help institutions correct weaknesses before they become wider governance risks.

The release of thirty-eight reports also strengthens public access to oversight. By publishing audit outputs in a timely and transparent manner, OAGS supports informed national dialogue, encourages stronger institutional accountability, and reinforces the role of Parliament and the public in monitoring government performance. These reports serve as an accountability resource for decision-makers and a reference point for tracking improvement over time.

The Auditor General further reaffirmed that the value of auditing is measured in impact. He emphasized the importance of follow-up and implementation, noting that audit recommendations are intended to trigger practical reforms, reduce recurring weaknesses, and strengthen public confidence in government operations. OAGS will continue to engage with audited entities and relevant stakeholders to support implementation and improve responsiveness to audit recommendations.

The publication of thirty-eight audit reports this year demonstrates not only increased output, but also strengthened institutional effectiveness. This progress has been reinforced through wider reforms, including improvements in audit planning and supervision, the use of technology to support oversight functions, and investment in professional development. In this regard, the establishment of the National Institute of Auditors as the official training center of the Supreme Audit Institution of Somalia marks a key step in strengthening long-term audit quality and sustainability.

The Office of the Auditor General remains committed to its constitutional mandate to promote accountability, integrity, and sound governance. Through continued audit coverage, constructive engagement, and institutional reform, OAGS aims to ensure that audit work leads to measurable improvements in public financial management and better outcomes for the Somali people..



SAI Somalia Deepens Regional Cooperation to Strengthen Audit Impact and Public Accountability

Pretoria, South Africa, 27-31 August 2025:

The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia strengthened its regional engagement by participating in a Coordinated Performance Audit alongside nine other African Supreme Audit Institutions under the framework of AFROSAI-E. The coordinated audit focuses on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 3.1, which aims to reduce maternal mortality, a priority area with direct implications for public health outcomes and service delivery.

The high-level coordination meeting, held at AFROSAI-E headquarters in Pretoria, brought together senior audit leaders and technical directors to review audit approaches, exchange practical experiences, and align methodologies for assessing government performance in maternal health interventions. Discussions centered on improving audit consistency, strengthening institutional capacity, and enhancing the use of audit evidence to inform policy decisions and improve health services for women and mothers.



The Coordinated Performance Audit provides a structured platform for African SAIs to assess how public resources allocated to maternal health are planned, implemented, and monitored. By applying a common audit framework, participating institutions aim to generate comparable findings that support stronger oversight, better use of health-sector funding, and measurable progress toward reducing preventable maternal deaths.

For Somalia, this initiative marks a significant milestone, as it represents the first time OAGS has participated in a regional coordinated audit. This achievement was made possible through the strong leadership commitment of the Auditor General, whose strategic direction has prioritized performance auditing, regional collaboration, and alignment with international development goals. Under this leadership, OAGS has increasingly positioned audit work as a tool for improving outcomes in critical social sectors.

The results of the coordinated audit are expected to be published in the coming period and will

contribute to regional learning on maternal health governance and accountability. OAGS views this engagement as part of its broader reform agenda to ensure that audit findings go beyond compliance and support tangible improvements in public services that directly affect citizens' lives.

Beyond the technical exercise, the engagement strengthened OAGS's relationships with regional peers and reinforced Somalia's role within the AFROSAI-E community. These partnerships support long-term institutional reform, enhance professional competence, and contribute to improved public financial management in high-impact sectors such as health.

As OAGS continues to align its work with AFROSAI-E's strategic priorities and global development frameworks, its participation in this coordinated audit underscores a leadership-driven commitment to transparency, accountability, and effective oversight in support of maternal health and broader national development goals.



SAI Somalia Reinforces Accountability Through Audit Follow-Up



Mogadishu, Somalia - August 27, 2025: The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) reinforced its national accountability role in August 2025 through two high-level engagements aimed at accelerating action on long-standing audit findings and strengthening transparency across strategic sectors of government.

On 2 August 2025, the Deputy Auditor General for Audit Services, Mukhtar Mohamed Abukar, led a strategic engagement with the Minister of Ports and Marine Transport and senior representatives

of Mogadishu Alport Corporation (Albayrak-Somalia). The meeting focused on recurring audit findings related to port concession agreements, particularly the Federal Government's inability to independently verify its entitled share of revenue.

This challenge continues to arise due to the concessionaire's failure to submit independently audited financial statements, a core contractual requirement. In the absence of verified financial reports, the Government remains unable to confirm the accuracy and completeness of revenues reported under the concession arrangement. The

Deputy Auditor General emphasized that this issue has been consistently highlighted in audit reports over multiple years and underlined the importance of enforcing contractual obligations to protect public financial integrity.

The meeting concluded with a shared understanding on the need to strengthen institutional coordination, enforce compliance with concession terms, and improve transparency in the management of nationally significant public assets.

Later in the month, on 27 August 2025, OAGS convened a follow-up meeting with senior officials from the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Office of the Accountant General to review findings from the 2024 Financial Audit related to the World Bank-funded Baxnaano Social Assistance Project. The engagement focused on beneficiary data availability and the verification of social assistance payments reported in the Federal Government's financial statements.

Discussions centered on addressing the audit observation that beneficiary data and payment confirmations required for independent verification had not been submitted at the time of the audit. WFP outlined its internal controls, financial procedures, and programme implementation arrange-

ments, while expressing readiness to cooperate fully with government institutions to address the identified gaps.

As a concrete outcome of the engagement, OAGS, WFP, and the Office of the Accountant General agreed to establish a joint technical committee, with the involvement of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, to strengthen data-sharing processes, improve verification mechanisms, and support the effective implementation of the Auditor General's recommendations.

Auditor General Ahmed Isse Gutale and the Accountant General welcomed WFP's constructive engagement and reaffirmed the importance of collaboration in safeguarding transparency and accountability within social protection programmes.

Together, these engagements demonstrate OAGS's sustained commitment to moving audit work beyond reporting toward follow-up, corrective action, and system-wide improvement. By addressing recurring findings, reinforcing inter-institutional cooperation, and promoting reliable public financial reporting, OAGS continues to play a central role in advancing transparency, good governance, and public trust in Somalia.



SAI Somalia Elevates Audit Oversight and Anti-Corruption Leadership through Regional Arab Engagements



Saudi Arabia, Jeddah - December 02-04, 2025: Somalia has reinforced its growing role in regional oversight, transparency, and anti-corruption efforts through active participation in two major Arab forums held in late 2025. Led by the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Ahmed Issa Gutale, the Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) engaged with regional and international partners to advance audit quality, digital transformation, and good governance across the Arab region.

From 2 to 4 December 2025, Somalia participated in the 15th General Assembly of the Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI), hosted in Jeddah by the Saudi General Court of Audit. The Assembly brought together heads of supreme audit institutions from twenty-two Arab countries, alongside representatives of regional and international organizations. Key decisions adopted during the Assembly focused on improving operational efficiency, strengthening governance frameworks, and expanding cooperation in institutional capacity building among member SAIs. The

Assembly also confirmed Saudi Arabia's second term as Chair of the ARABOSAI Governing Board, with continued hosting of organizational meetings through 2028.

A technical symposium held alongside the Assembly examined institutional capacity development and professionalization, resulting in practical recommendations to enhance training systems and improve the impact of audit work across the region. On the margins of the Assembly, the Auditor General held bilateral meetings with regional counterparts to discuss peer cooperation, knowledge exchange, and support for Somalia's ongoing efforts to modernize public-sector auditing through digital tools. OAGS emphasized that Somalia's engagement reflects a leadership-driven commitment to transparency, accountability, and institutional reform at the national level.

Earlier, on 22 and 23 October 2025, the Auditor General also represented Somalia at the Third Arab Regional Forum on Enhancing Transparency and Combating Corruption in the Digital Age, held in Cairo. The Forum brought together senior officials, experts, and development partners to explore how digital transformation can strength-

en integrity and accountability in public administration. During the Forum, the Auditor General delivered a presentation on beneficial ownership transparency, highlighting Somalia's progress in using digital systems and cross-institutional co-operation to improve transparency and combat financial crime.

In his remarks, the Auditor General stressed the importance of cross-border cooperation, digital governance, and reliable information systems in preventing corruption and safeguarding public resources. He also acknowledged the role of regional and international partners in supporting Somalia's reform efforts and reinforcing a culture of integrity within public institutions.

Taken together, these engagements demonstrate Somalia's proactive and leadership-led approach to strengthening supreme audit oversight, embracing digital solutions, and contributing meaningfully to regional efforts to promote transparency, accountability, and public trust. Through sustained regional cooperation and institutional reform, OAGS continues to position Somalia as a credible and active partner in advancing good governance across the Arab region.



Auditor General Highlights National ID's Role in Exposing Hidden Ownership



Mogadishu, Somalia - 25 November, 2025:

Somalia's Auditor General, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, has underscored the critical role of the country's digital National ID system in strengthening transparency and exposing hidden ownership of companies and assets, describing it as a cornerstone for accountability and financial integrity.

Speaking at the Second Somali National ID Conference (SNIDC 2025) in Mogadishu, the Auditor General emphasized that a reliable national identity system provides government institutions with the ability to verify individuals and trace beneficial

ownership, which remains a key vulnerability in public procurement and financial oversight. His remarks were delivered during a session focused on linking identity systems to accountability frameworks.

The Auditor General noted that hidden ownership structures enable corruption, money laundering, and illicit financial flows by masking the individuals who ultimately control companies and assets. He stressed that accurate and verifiable identity data is essential for closing these loopholes and ensuring that public resources are managed

transparently and lawfully. He further highlighted that Somalia's progress in digital identity aligns the country with international standards and global efforts to strengthen financial integrity.

Drawing on practical reforms, the Auditor General explained that the Office of the Auditor General has already integrated the National ID system into its Contract Management System, enabling auditors to verify companies and their true owners during procurement audits. This integration has strengthened due diligence, reduced the risk of shell companies, and improved confidence in public contracting processes.

He also emphasized that broader adoption of the National ID, including mandatory enrollment, would significantly enhance oversight across government systems, reinforce the rule of law, and support Somalia's progress toward Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice, and strong

institutions. According to the Auditor General, digital identity is not merely a technical reform, but a governance tool that connects citizens, institutions, and accountability.

The SNIDC 2025 conference, organized by the National Identification and Registration Authority, brought together government institutions, development partners, and private-sector stakeholders to examine how digital identity systems can improve service delivery, security, and transparency. Somalia's participation at the conference reflects a growing national focus on using digital solutions to strengthen governance and public trust.

Through leadership-driven reforms and practical integration of digital systems, the Office of the Auditor General continues to position audit work as a driver of transparency, integrity, and institutional resilience in Somalia.



SAI Somalia Strengthens Global Audit Partnerships Through Landmark Agreements with Türkiye & Egypt

The Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) has significantly expanded its global engagement by formalizing strategic partnerships with the Turkish Court of Accounts and Egypt's Accountability State Authority, reinforcing Somalia's commitment to transparency, accountability, and modern public-sector oversight. These landmark agreements represent a decisive step in strengthening audit quality, institutional capacity, and international cooperation within the global community of Supreme Audit Institutions.

In July 2025, during an official visit to Ankara, Auditor General H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the President of the Turkish Court of Accounts, H.E. Metin Yener. The agreement established a structured framework for collaboration between the two institutions, reflecting a shared commitment to strengthening audit professionalism and institutional independence. The Somali delegation, which included Deputy Auditor General Abdijamal Ismail Mohamed and senior officials, engaged in extensive discussions with Turkish counterparts and visited key departments to exchange practical experience on financial, compliance, and information systems audits, as well as technology-driven reforms.

The agreement with Türkiye provides a platform

for long-term cooperation in areas such as capacity development, professional training, joint research in public finance, and peer-learning through study visits and technical exchanges. These areas directly support OAGS's ongoing reform agenda by strengthening staff skills, enhancing audit methodologies, and improving the effectiveness of oversight across government institutions.

In October 2025, OAGS further expanded its international partnerships by signing a second Memorandum of Understanding with Egypt's Accountability State Authority during the Twenty-Fifth International Congress of Supreme Audit Institutions (INCOSAI) held in Sharm El-Sheikh. This agreement focuses on cooperation in quality assurance, forensic auditing, and anti-corruption initiatives, while promoting the exchange of technical expertise and institutional best practices. The partnership strengthens OAGS's ability to address complex audit risks and aligns Somalia's audit practices with internationally recognized standards.

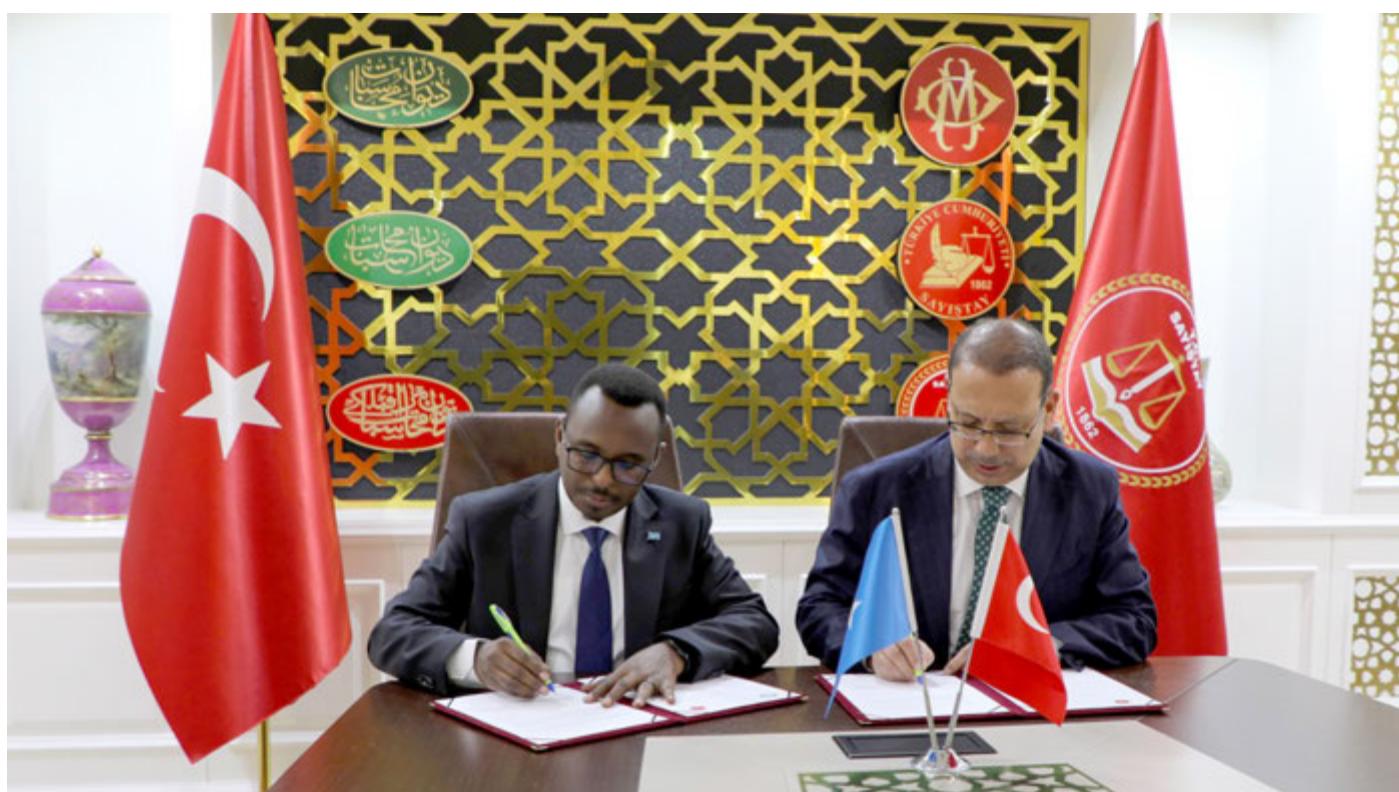
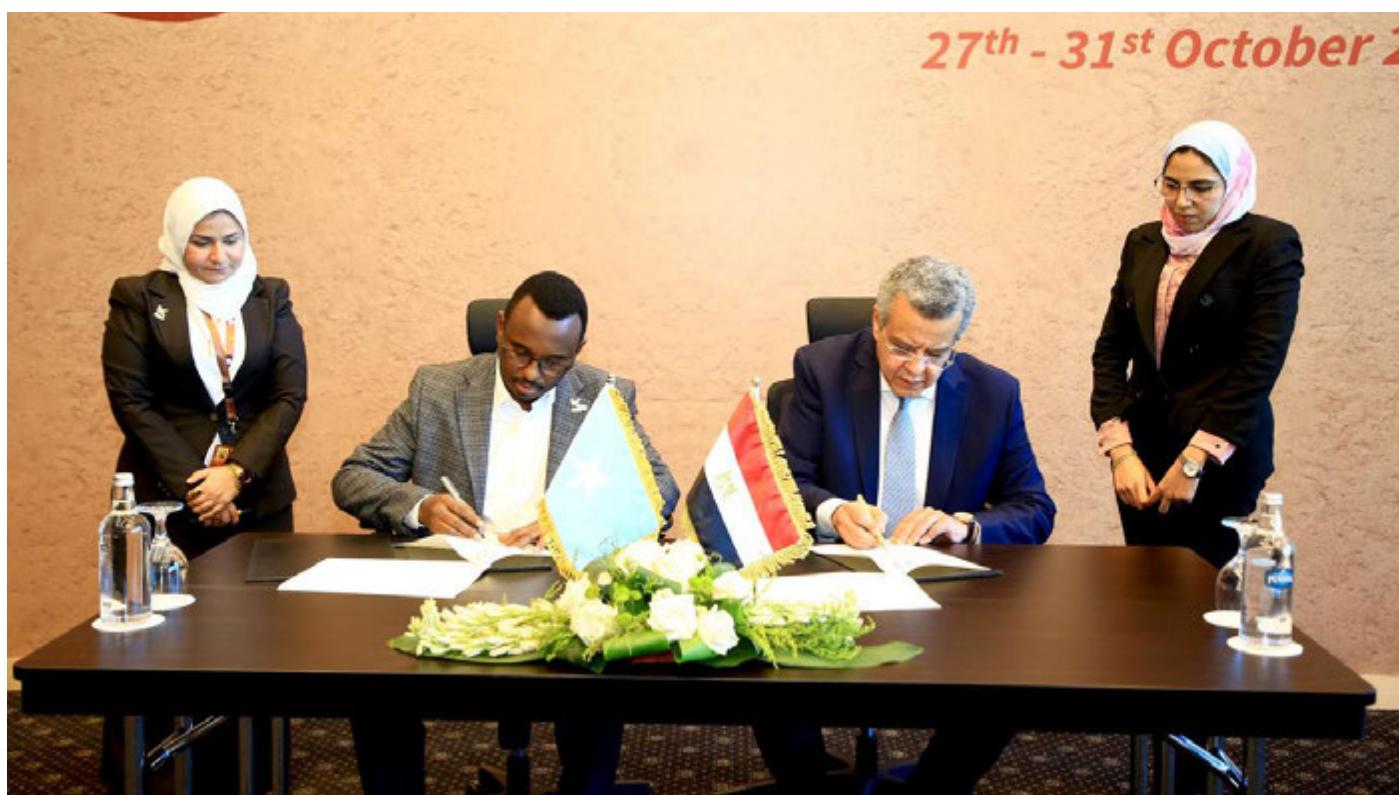
Auditor General Gutale emphasized that both agreements reflect a leadership-driven approach to institutional reform, grounded in learning, cooperation, and shared responsibility. He noted that strong audit institutions are essential to accountable governance and that international part-

nerships play a critical role in building resilient oversight systems capable of responding to evolving public-sector challenges.

Taken together, the agreements with Türkiye and Egypt mark a transformative advancement for Somalia's Supreme Audit Institution. By forging strategic alliances with well-established audit

bodies, OAGS is investing in stronger institutions, enhanced professional capacity, and deeper collaboration in the global effort to promote transparency and accountability. These partnerships demonstrate Somalia's growing readiness to contribute meaningfully to international audit platforms while continuing to modernize its oversight functions for the benefit of the Somali people.

27th - 31st October 2023



SAI Somalia Accelerates Institutional Development through Strategic Capacity Building and Leadership Training



The Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS) made significant progress in strengthening its institutional capacity and leadership effectiveness throughout 2025 by investing in targeted training, regional engagement, and professional development initiatives. These efforts reflect a deliberate strategy to improve audit quality, reinforce accountability systems, and equip staff with the skills required to support Somalia's public financial management reforms.

In September 2025, senior OAGS officials participated in a high-level workshop in Riyadh on the role of government e-procurement platforms in strengthening procurement governance. The workshop examined how digital systems enhance transparency, reduce procurement risks, and improve oversight within public financial management. OAGS shared Somalia's reform experience and used the engagement to deepen cooperation with ARABOSAI member institutions, reinforcing

its commitment to digital transformation as a driver of accountability.

A major leadership milestone was reached in July when senior officials, including the Deputy Auditor General, graduated from the Postgraduate Diploma in Management Practice under the AFROSAI-E and Henley Business School Africa Senior Leadership Development Programme. The year-long programme strengthened competencies in governance, systems thinking, strategic planning, and organizational change. Auditor General Ahmed Isse Gutale described the achievement as an important step toward building a leadership culture grounded in integrity, foresight, and service to the Somali people, essential for sustaining institutional reform.

OAGS also expanded its engagement in emerging governance areas by participating in the AFROSAI-E and INTOSAI Working Group on Extractive Industries workshop in Livingstone, Zambia. The workshop brought together African Supreme Audit Institutions to examine responsible and sustainable management of mineral resources. OAGS contributed to discussions on conflict minerals, environmental protection, and technology-enabled oversight, supporting its readiness to audit Somalia's evolving extractive sector with a focus on public value.

Between September and October 2025, OAGS partnered with the Swedish National Audit Office to conduct a performance audit workshop aimed at strengthening audit review, supervision, and alignment with international standards. This initiative supported the Office's efforts to embed quality assurance across audit processes and ensure that audit conclusions are credible, consistent, and evidence-based.

Strategic management capacity was further enhanced through participation in an IDI-led workshop in Nairobi in October, where officials strengthened their skills in monitoring and evaluation, performance tracking, and follow-up of audit recommendations. Learning from the practical experience of peer institutions, including SAI Kenya,

contributed to improving OAGS's internal systems for measuring audit impact and implementing its Strategic Plan.

At the national level, the Auditor General led a three-day compliance audit training in Mogadishu for nearly thirty auditors, focusing on legal compliance, professional conduct, and modern oversight techniques. The training reinforced the role of auditors as guardians of public resources and institutional integrity, complementing ongoing capacity development across financial, forensic, special, and information systems audits.

OAGS also strengthened its communication and reporting effectiveness by participating in the AFROSAI-E Regional Workshop on Communication and Stakeholder Engagement in Pretoria, supported by the United Kingdom National Audit Office. The training enhanced skills in report writing, stakeholder engagement, and strategic communication, enabling the Office to present audit findings more clearly and increase their influence on reform.

In November 2025, OAGS convened an internal monitoring and evaluation workshop to strengthen performance oversight across departments. The Auditor General, together with both Deputy Auditors General, emphasized that effective M&E systems are essential for tracking progress, improving efficiency, and ensuring that institutional reforms deliver measurable results.

Collectively, these initiatives mark 2025 as a year of deliberate institutional strengthening for OAGS. Through leadership development, technical specialization, peer learning, and strategic partnerships, the Office has reinforced its capacity to deliver high-quality audits and support meaningful governance reform. By investing in its people, systems, and leadership, OAGS continues to position itself as a modern and credible Supreme Audit Institution committed to transparency, accountability, and improved public outcomes for Somalia.

SAI Somalia Trains Journalists to Strengthen Public Understanding of Audit Findings

Mogadishu, Somalia – 12-13 August, 2025 :The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) concluded a two-day training workshop for journalists aimed at improving how audit findings are communicated to the public. The training brought together eighteen journalists from nine national media organizations and focused on enhancing accurate, clear, and responsible reporting on audit reports.

The workshop forms part of OAGS's broader effort to ensure that audit work translates into public understanding and informed dialogue. By strengthening journalists' capacity to interpret audit findings, the initiative supports greater trans-

parency and enables citizens to better understand how public resources are managed and where improvements are required.

Participants were introduced to OAGS's mandate, organizational structure, legal framework, and the international standards guiding audit work. Sessions also covered audit cycles, report release procedures, and commonly used audit terminology. Practical exercises allowed journalists to work through real audit scenarios, helping them translate technical findings into clear and accessible stories that can inform public debate and strengthen accountability.



The training emphasized the role of the media as a bridge between audit institutions and the public. By improving journalists' understanding of audit processes and findings, OAGS aims to reduce misinterpretation of reports and promote fact-based reporting that contributes to constructive national discussions on governance and public financial management.

Participants welcomed the initiative and highlighted its relevance in strengthening professional reporting on accountability issues. Several journalists recommended that similar trainings be held regularly to build sustained media capacity and deepen understanding of audit work across the sector.

Speaking at the closing session, the Director of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement at OAGS emphasized that well-informed media professionals are essential partners in promoting transparency and good governance. He noted that when audit findings are communicated clearly and

responsibly, they empower citizens, support oversight, and encourage corrective action by public institutions.

This workshop marks the second consecutive year that OAGS has conducted targeted training for journalists, reflecting the Office's continued commitment to engaging the media as a key stakeholder in the accountability ecosystem. Through sustained collaboration with journalists, OAGS seeks to ensure that audit reports are not only published, but also understood, debated, and used to support positive change in Somalia's public sector.



SAI Somalia Drives Improved Compliance with Audit and PFM Laws Through National Engagement



Mogadishu, Somalia – September 22, 2025 : The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) convened a high-level national sensitization seminar on audit, public financial management, and procurement laws as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen compliance and accountability across government institutions. The one-day seminar, held in Mogadishu, brought together more than sixty participants, including senior officials from federal government institutions, representatives of civil society, and the leadership of OAGS, led by the Auditor General, Deputy Auditor General, and departmental directors.

The seminar was organized in response to formal requests from audited institutions following the release of the 2024 Compliance Audit Reports.

Several institutions had sought structured engagement with OAGS to better understand audit procedures, legal obligations, and their responsibilities in responding to audit findings. The forum provided a practical platform for dialogue, clarification, and shared learning, reinforcing the role of audit as a tool for institutional improvement rather than fault-finding.

In his opening remarks, Auditor General H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale underscored that compliance with public financial management and procurement laws is a legal duty and a core requirement of sound governance. He stressed that audit should be viewed as an instrument for learning, correction, and performance enhancement, and called on public institutions to take ownership of

their responsibilities under Law No. 14 of 2023 and related legislation by implementing audit recommendations in a timely and structured manner.

A central theme of the seminar was the role of internal audit units in strengthening institutional control systems. Presentations highlighted that effective internal audit functions help institutions identify weaknesses early, manage financial risks, and prevent the recurrence of audit findings. Internal audit was emphasized as a critical link between management and external oversight, supporting stronger compliance and more constructive engagement with OAGS.

Throughout the seminar, OAGS directors and technical experts delivered sessions on the national audit framework, applicable legal instruments, and recurring compliance issues identified in recent audits. The interactive format allowed participants to raise practical questions, discuss implementation challenges, and share experiences from their respective institutions, fostering a more open and solution-oriented exchange.

The seminar also included participation from representatives of Somali civil society, academia, the

financial sector, and religious leadership. Their contributions highlighted the importance of inclusive oversight and reaffirmed that safeguarding public resources is a shared responsibility that extends beyond government institutions alone. Participants welcomed OAGS's engagement approach and encouraged continued dialogue to strengthen public trust and accountability.

The seminar concluded with discussions on improving follow-up mechanisms for audit recommendations and maintaining regular communication between OAGS and audited entities. OAGS confirmed its intention to continue organizing similar engagements as part of its broader strategy to enhance audit impact and align with international public sector auditing standards. A summary of key discussions and follow-up actions will be shared with participants to support implementation.

This national seminar represents a practical step toward strengthening Somalia's accountability ecosystem. It reflects OAGS's commitment to promoting compliance, improving institutional performance, and reinforcing transparent and responsible public financial governance in line with national law and international principles.



SAI Somalia and UN Partners Advance Strategic Action on Corruption Risk Management in Somalia

Mogadishu, Somalia – November 12, 2025: The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) has reinforced its partnership with the United Nations through a high-level meeting with senior representatives from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), aimed at advancing anti-corruption efforts and strengthening public sector accountability.

The meeting focused on enhancing cooperation in Corruption Risk Management, recognized as a

critical tool for preventing, identifying, and mitigating corruption risks within public institutions. Discussions centered on practical approaches to improving transparency, strengthening oversight systems, and embedding ethical standards across government operations.

Auditor General H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale emphasized that effective governance depends on proactive risk management rather than reactive enforcement. He noted that identifying and addressing corruption risks early is essential to protecting



public resources and maintaining citizens' trust in state institutions. He reaffirmed OAGS's commitment to strengthening its oversight role through modern audit methodologies, stronger internal controls, and closer coordination with the Federal Member State Offices of the Auditor General.

The Deputy Auditor General and senior OAGS officials also took part in the discussions, underscoring the institution's collective commitment to reform and institutional integrity.

Representatives from UNODC and UNDP welcomed OAGS's leadership and reaffirmed their support for Somalia's accountability agenda. They highlighted the importance of translating policy dialogue into concrete actions through technical assistance, capacity-building initiatives, and joint programmes that integrate corruption risk management into public administration systems.

The engagement comes at a critical juncture as Somalia continues efforts to consolidate governance reforms, attract responsible investment, and ensure public resources are managed efficiently and transparently. Strengthened corruption risk man-

agement is expected to contribute to improved service delivery, stronger institutions, and long-term national stability.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to deepen collaboration and align future support with Somalia's evolving governance priorities, marking an important step toward a more transparent, accountable, and resilient public sector.

“Strong governance depends on systems that anticipate risk. Corruption risk management allows institutions to act early, transparently, and responsibly in the public interest.”

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



SAI Somalia Reviews 2025 Progress with Development Partners, Reinforcing Accountability and Reform Momentum



Mogadishu, Somalia - November 19, 2025: The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia (OAGS) convened its Semi-Annual Development Partners Meeting, bringing together senior leadership of the Office and key international partners to review progress achieved in 2025, reflect on emerging challenges, and strengthen cooperation toward shared accountability goals.

Chaired by the Auditor General, H.E. Ahmed Isse Gutale, the hybrid meeting served as a strategic platform to present institutional achievements, audit outputs, and reform milestones delivered during the year, while aligning priorities for continued support and collaboration. Participants included representatives from the World Bank, Euro-

pean Union, INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI), AFROSAI-E, UNICEF, Turkish Court of Accounts, Swedish National Audit Office, Royal Norwegian Embassy, and other development partners .

In his opening remarks, the Auditor General emphasized that the meeting was not only an accountability exercise, but a reaffirmation of OAGS's commitment to transparency, professionalism, and results-driven oversight. He highlighted the timely submission of audit reports to Parliament, strengthened stakeholder engagement, expanded regional and international cooperation, and the signing of strategic cooperation agreements with peer Supreme Audit Institutions as key achievements realized during the year.

The meeting reviewed the Office's 2025 Semi-Annual Performance Report, which tracks progress against the Strategic Plan 2023–2027 and the Annual Operational Plan. Presentations outlined the scope of OAGS's work, including the delivery of audits across financial, compliance, performance, and specialized streams, as well as the successful auditing of donor-funded projects. Partners were briefed on the scale of operations undertaken during the year and the Office's growing capacity to manage complex audits in line with international standards.

Updates were also provided on strengthened collaboration between OAGS and the Federal Member State Offices of the Auditor General, marked by the signing of a formal cooperation agreement supported by the European Union. This framework is expected to enhance joint audits, harmonize reporting practices, and reinforce accountability across all levels of government.

In addition, OAGS presented its Support Ecosystem Framework, outlining how partner contributions align with the Office's seven strategic goals and identifying priority areas requiring further support. These include strengthening audit fol-

low-up mechanisms, enhancing forensic and ICT audit capacity, and expanding professional development opportunities for audit staff.

Development partners commended OAGS for maintaining operational continuity, advancing reforms under challenging conditions, and demonstrating clear leadership in promoting transparency and good governance. They expressed appreciation for the clarity of reporting and reaffirmed their commitment to continued cooperation and alignment with OAGS's strategic priorities.

The meeting concluded with closing remarks from the Deputy Auditor General, who thanked partners for their sustained engagement and constructive dialogue. He emphasized that the discussions provided a strong foundation for deeper coordination and more targeted support in the year ahead.

The Semi-Annual Development Partners Meeting reflects OAGS's approach to accountable leadership, open communication, and partnership-driven reform. It reinforces the Office's role as a central institution in Somalia's public financial management system and its determination to deliver credible oversight that serves Parliament, government institutions, and the Somali public.



Office of the Auditor General Deepens Public Understanding of Internal Audit Through Multi-Platform Awareness Campaign



Mogadishu, Somalia - December 08, 2025: The Office of the Auditor General of the Federal Republic of Somalia has strengthened public sector accountability by successfully delivering a nationwide public awareness campaign on Internal Audit, designed to improve understanding of its role in strengthening governance, preventing financial mismanagement, and supporting effective decision-making within public institutions. The campaign consisted of three thematic videos and one consolidated version, strategically released across Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn to reach diverse audiences.

The awareness initiative addressed persistent gaps in understanding about Internal Audit by clearly explaining its legal foundation, functional mandate, and practical contribution to public financial management. The videos emphasized that Internal Audit is not a fault-finding exercise, but a preventive and advisory function that supports Authorized Officers and senior management in managing risks, strengthening internal controls, and ensuring compliance with laws, policies, and procedures. By clarifying this role, the campaign helped reposition Internal Audit as a tool for institutional improvement rather than enforcement alone.

The campaign generated strong engagement across all digital platforms, demonstrating clear public and professional interest. On LinkedIn, the videos achieved significant organic reach, high engagement rates, and sustained follower growth, indicating strong resonance with public sector professionals, managers, and oversight practitioners. Facebook engagement reflected broad public reach and sustained interaction, while YouTube provided extended visibility for audiences seeking deeper understanding of Internal Audit concepts and their application in practice.

More importantly, the campaign delivered measurable impact beyond viewership. Engagement patterns, comments, and direct feedback indicate increased awareness among public officials and institutional leaders regarding their responsibilities in establishing and supporting functional Internal Audit Units. The content also contributed to greater recognition of the link between Internal Audit, risk management, and improved service delivery, reinforcing the importance of early detection and correction of weaknesses before they escalate into major audit findings.

By simplifying complex oversight concepts and using accessible digital platforms, the Office strengthened the connection between technical audit functions and everyday governance challenges. The campaign supported behavioral change by encouraging institutions to view Internal Audit as an integral part of management processes, rather than a compliance burden. This shift is critical to reducing recurring audit findings, strengthening financial discipline, and improving the reliability of public reporting.

This initiative reflects the Office of the Auditor General's broader approach to preventive oversight and proactive communication. By investing in public awareness, the Office enhances the effectiveness of its audits, supports institutional learning, and promotes a culture of accountability grounded in transparency and risk awareness.

The Office will continue to implement targeted communication and awareness initiatives to reinforce good governance practices, strengthen internal control environments, and advance Internal Audit as a cornerstone of effective, ethical, and results-oriented public administration in Somalia.



AFROSAI-E M&E Reports Confirm Steady Institutional Progress at SAI Somalia



The Supreme Audit Institution of Somalia has recorded consistent and verifiable institutional progress between 2023 and 2024, according to the official Monitoring and Evaluation Year-End Reports issued by AFROSAI-E. The reports confirm measurable improvements across legal foundations, internal systems, public engagement, and regional cooperation, reflecting tangible institutional change supported by national reform efforts and validated through independent regional assessment. At the same time, the findings recognise that institutional development is an ongoing process requiring sustained leadership, learning, and system refinement.

A major milestone was achieved in September

2023 with the enactment of a new Audit Law, replacing a framework that had governed the institution for more than five decades. AFROSAI-E formally recognised this reform and documented its impact on institutional strength. The new law reinforced the mandate of the Office of the Auditor General by clarifying authority over internal operations, organisational structure, and reporting lines to Parliament. This legal transformation provided a more stable and professional foundation for audit work and public oversight and stands out as one of the most significant structural achievements of the period under review.

The AFROSAI-E reports for 2023 and 2024 further confirm that SAI Somalia benefited from structured

institutional support in quality management, leadership development, strategic planning, communication, and stakeholder engagement. This support translated into practical results, including stronger internal review mechanisms, improved audit supervision, and more consistent documentation standards. Audit teams adopted clearer planning approaches and more disciplined working methods, contributing to improved credibility of audit outputs and stronger internal accountability.

Stakeholder engagement also showed measurable improvement. The 2024 report confirms that Somalia received direct regional support to strengthen communication and stakeholder engagement practices. This resulted in more structured interaction with Parliament, government institutions, and development partners. Communication processes became more consistent, and coordination with key stakeholders more systematic. At the same time, the reports acknowledge that further work is needed to strengthen how the institution measures, documents, and communicates the real impact of its audit work. These impact-focused practices are now embedded within institutional processes and continue to evolve as part of ongoing reform.

Public financial management oversight strengthened during the period. AFROSAI-E confirmed that SAI Somalia produced and issued public audit outputs related to public financial management, demonstrating a shift from inward-focused reform to visible external accountability. These outputs are recorded in regional monitoring reports and reflect the application of improved systems,

enhanced skills, and strengthened professional standards.

Leadership is identified as a central factor underpinning these developments. The role of the Auditor General, Ahmed Isse Gutale, has been recognised internally as providing stability, strategic direction, and institutional support during a demanding reform period. His leadership approach has promoted innovation, learning, and collaboration, encouraging staff to test new methods, strengthen discipline, and invest in professional growth. This leadership environment helped sustain reform momentum despite constraints and a complex governance context.

At the same time, the institution openly acknowledges that progress does not remove the need for further improvement. Systems require continuous refinement, staff skills require ongoing development, and resource limitations persist. The leadership of the Auditor General continues to promote a culture that recognises these realities and prioritises adaptive solutions over complacency, supporting long-term institutional resilience.

Today, SAI Somalia stands on a modern legal foundation, applies stronger internal quality controls, produces public audit outputs, and engages stakeholders through more structured and transparent processes. These achievements are independently verified through AFROSAI-E monitoring and reflect the influence of consistent and supportive leadership. While progress is evident, the institution remains firmly committed to continuous improvement, innovation, and responsible growth under the stewardship of the Auditor General.



SAI Somalia Newsletter Half-Year Recap

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The second half of 2025 marked a phase of consolidation and delivery for the Office of the Auditor General of Somalia (OAGS). Building on reforms initiated earlier in the year, the Office focused on strengthening audit delivery, deepening accountability, and translating institutional strategy into visible results.

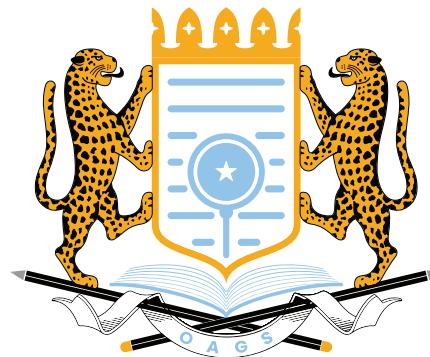
A key highlight of the period was the completion and public release of thirty-eight audit reports, the highest number issued in a single reporting cycle. These audits covered financial, compliance, performance, information systems, forensic, and special audits, providing Parliament, government institutions, and the public with credible assurance on the use and management of public resources. The scale and timeliness of these outputs reflected strengthened planning, coordination, and internal quality controls.

National engagement intensified through targeted high-level dialogues addressing recurring audit findings and implementation challenges. OAGS also expanded public outreach through internal audit awareness campaigns and journalist capacity-building initiatives, helping improve understanding of audit work and its role in preventing risk and strengthening public financial management.

At the regional and international levels, OAGS strengthened cooperation through active participation in AFROSAI-E and ARABOSAI platforms and by signing strategic cooperation agreements with peer Supreme Audit Institutions. These engagements supported professional exchange, benchmarking, and alignment with international audit standards.

Institutional development remained a core priority. Leadership and technical capacity were reinforced through structured training, peer learning, and strategic workshops. A major milestone during the period was the operationalisation of the National Institute of Auditors, established as the official training and leadership center of OAGS to support long-term professionalization and reform sustainability.

As 2025 draws to a close, OAGS stands as a more resilient, outward-facing, and performance-driven Supreme Audit Institution. With stronger systems and clearer stakeholder engagement, the Office continues to focus on enhancing audit quality, improving follow-up on recommendations, and reinforcing public trust through consistent and professional oversight.



OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA



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