



## Agenda item 7 – technical support function

### Introduction

The idea behind an INTOSAI Technical Support Function (TSF) arose from one of the strategic objectives for Goal 1 (Professional Standards) in the INTOSAI Strategic Plan 2017-2022. This was to provide a strong organisational framework to support INTOSAI and to offer high-quality technical support services to INTOSAI standard setting activities and available to the whole INTOSAI community.

The INTOSAI TSF will initially consist of two TSF officers and one manager, who will be responsible for the team. We received many strong applicants for the TSF posts, all of whom we interviewed. After careful consideration of their relative merits, the Goal Chairs selected three candidates whose terms of engagement have been formalised with the PSC through memoranda of understanding.

The TSF will function initially as a distance-based support service. Thus, TSF staff will work under the direct authority of the PSC but continue to be based at their current place of employment under the same terms and conditions as at present. Their initial commitment is for one year, which can be renewed.

The TSF has been functional since May 2020.

### Getting the job done

The TSF have been involved in sourcing background information and carrying out explorative research work on topics from the Strategic Development Plan for the INTOSAI Framework of Professional Pronouncements 2020 – 2022:

- Component 1: one member has carry out analysis do support the review proposed as part of this component.
- ISSAI 140: exploring the scope of a possible project aimed at providing clear, consistent and adequate standards for the organisation of quality control within SAIs taking into account different organisational models, and ensuring consistent use of terminology;
- Fraud and Corruption: How the IFPP can provide improved support to SAIs in addressing fraud and corruption. In this respect the TSF are running an extensive survey covering inter alia the extent to which the IFPP and the ISSAIs provide sufficiently valid guidance on what are the SAI's role and tasks in fight against irregularities, as well as on future needs;
- SDGs: Specifically, how the existing ISSAIs and GUIDs are used in auditing the SDGs, and if there are further needs arising from this.
- Support to project group and subcommittees on summarizing issues and the options going forward with the GUID on combined audits.

For many years, the FIPP was keen to have a functioning TSF, and thus it is no surprise that the initial requests for support came from the FIPP Chair and Vice-Chair.

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