Chairmanship of the Financial Audit and Accounting Subcommittee (FAAS)

September 2023
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INTRODUCTION

By letter of 18 May 2023, H.E Humaid Obaid Khalifa Obaid Abushibs, president of the SAI United Arab Emirates, informed the PSC Chair and Vice-Chair of its intention to step down as chair of the PSC’s Financial Audit and Accounting Subcommittee (FAAS).

The State Audit Institution of the United Arab Emirates has held the Chairmanship of FAS since the INCOSAI in Beijing in October 2013. The FAS subsequently merged with the Accounting and Reporting Subcommittee of INTOSAI in 2016 to form the FAAS.

SEEKING A NEW CHAIR

According to the handbook for INTOSAI committees, a SAI will be appointed to chair each subcommittee after a call by the respective Goal Chair1. The PSC Steering Committee has the responsibility to approve the appointment of chairs for its respective sub-committees and seek the approval of the Governing Board2.

The PSC secretariat contacted all existing FAAS members by letter of 3 July 2023 to enquire if their respective SAIs would be interested in taking on the role of the chair of the subcommittee. The call of expression of interest was limited to existing FAAS members reasoning that their knowledge and experience in this field is unique and would facilitate the transition between chairs. At the same time, the PSC secretariat drew the attention of potential applicants to the commitment to assume all the costs involved in being chair including having sufficient financial and human resources at their disposal to adequately take on these functions.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

1 Handbook for INTOSAI Committees 2019, §2.3(d)
2 Idem, §2.2(e)
Two applications were received by the closing date of 31 July 2023 from SAI Sweden, and the UK NAO. Both institutions emphasise how they would contribute and add value to the role of the chair and confirm that they have at their disposal the relevant resources to do so.

The PSC secretariat felt that it would be unfortunate to have to choose between two almost identical, highly motivated applicants, and asked both SAIs to consider a solution where they could work together.

Both SAI have agreed to rotate the chair and vice-chair role on FAAS, with the UK NAO going first as chair and SAI Sweden as vice-chair. Both SAI will rotate roles after two years and any future arrangements will be agreed mutually between the two applicants.

REQUEST TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The PSC Steering Committee is invited to approve this sharing arrangement between the UK NAO and SAI Sweden and nominate the UK NAO as chair, and SAI Sweden as vice-chair of the FAAS.