News from Member SAIs

CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAMBER OF ACCOUNTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN SINCE NOVEMBER 2013 & RE-APPOINTED AS ON DECEMBER 11, 2020.

Mr. Vugar Tapdiqoglu Gulmammadov



The Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan has re-appointed Mr. Vugar Gulmammadov as the Chairman of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Azerbaijan for another his seven-year term on 11 December, 2020. Mr. Vugar Gulmammadov brings an extensive public sector audit experience to his position as he has been with the Azerbaijan SAI for almost 14 years, for the last 7 years of which he has spent already as the Chairman of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Mr. Vugar Tapdiqoglu Gulmammadov was born on 3 April 1971 in Baku.

In 1993 he graduated the Faculty of Production Economy and Management of Azerbaijan State Economic Institute.

In 1993-1997 he worked as deputy general accountant and general accountant at the health department of Suraxani district of Baku.

In 1997-2007 he was an inspector, deputy head and head of department at the Finance Office of Suraxani district of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Azerbaijan, deputy head and head of department of the Finance Office of Sabail district, deputy head and head of sector of the Finance Office of Binaqadi district and deputy head and head of sector of the Finance Office of Yasamal district.

In 2007-2013 he has been leading the Department of Control of Investments of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

On 22 November 2013 he was appointed as the Chairman of the Chamber of Accounts by the decision of the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

On 11 December 2020 he was re-appointed as the Chairman of the Chamber of Accounts by the decision of the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Mr. Vugar Gulmammadov was awarded with the Medal for Distinguished Public Service by the President of Azerbaijan Republic for the special achievements in the activity of the Chamber on the occasion of 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Azerbaijan by the Order numbered 1809, dated October 31, 2011.

He is married with three children.

Dr. Mehrdad Bazrpash elected as Senior President of Supreme Audit Court of the Islamic Republic of Iran



In an open session on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, Dr. Mehrdad Bazrpash was elected by members of the Iranian Parliament (the Islamic Consultative Assembly) as the new Senior President of the Supreme Audit Court (SAC) of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Dr. Bazrpash was born in Tehran on August 11, 1980. He holds a B.Sc. degree in Industrial Engineering (Sharif University of Technology), an M.A. in Executive Management (Allameh Tabatabaee University), and a Ph.D. in Technology Management (Allameh Tabatabaee University). Besides, Dr. Bazrpash is a faculty member of the department of management in IRIB University.

It is noteworthy that Dr. Bazrpash had some other important responsibilities in the Iranian executive and supervisory circles including Vice President and Head of Iran's National Youth Organization, Member of the Presidium of the Iranian Parliament (round 9), Advisor to the President of I.R.I on Social Affairs, CEO of SAIPA (automobile manufacturer) and Advisor to the Mayor of Tehran.

ديوان المحاسبة
State Audit Bureau

رئيس ديوان المحاسبة
PRESIDENT State Audit Bureau

BIOGRAPHY



Personal Information

Name: Faisal Fahad Mohammed Ali Al-Shaya
Date of birth: 20/6/1952
Current position: President of the State Audit Bureau of Kuwait Education
Bachelor: Degree in Business
Marital status: Married

Work Experience

- Public Institution for Social Security (PIFSS) / Investment Department 1977-1982.
- Public Institution for Social Security (PIFSS) / Director of the Investment Office 1982-1984.
- General Manager of Wafra Real Estate, a subsidiary of PIFSS, 1984-1999. Member of Parliament in the Kuwaiti National Assembly 1999-2003.
- Member of Parliament in the Kuwaiti National Assembly 2006-2008.
- Member of Parliament in Kuwaiti National Assembly 2013-2016.
- Member and Rapporteur of the Committee on Financial Affairs in the National Assembly 1999-2008.
- Head of the Committee on Financial Affairs in the National Assembly 2013-2016.
  Member and Rapporteur of:

  Committee on the Protection of Public Funds.
  - Human Rights Committee
  - Foreign Affairs Committee.
  - Housing Affairs Committee.
- Member of the Arab Parliament 2006-2008.
- Head of the Executive Committee, Arab Parliamentary Union 2013-2016.
- Deputy of the Parliamentary Friendship Group in the Kuwaiti National Assembly 2013-2016.

Corporations

Vice Chairman of Injazzat Real Estate Development Company 1998-2013.
Chairman of Injazzat Real Estate Development Company 2013-2019.
Board Member and Vice Chairman of First Bahrain Real Estate Development Company 2017-2019.
Board Member of CapCorp Investment Company 2008-2019.

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SAI Pakistan conducts Two day Online Training course on Risk Based Auditing from 27-28 January 2021

Department of the Auditor General of Pakistan conducted a 2-day online course from 27-28 January 2021 for Auditors from seven countries. The course was conducted in Auditor General's Performance Audit Wing facility at Lahore, and 42 Auditors from seven countries including Turkey, Iran, Qatar, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Palestine and Belarus participated in the online training session on Risk-Based Auditing.





The online course is aligned with the Auditor General of Pakistan's office Digital Education Initiative. The AGP office has invested in solutions and developed staff competencies to facilitate an effective, inclusive, flexible and agile Digital Education.



Ms. Ayesha Siddiq, Director General and Mr. Bilal Akram, Director being expert trainers from SAI Pakistan, deliberated on Risk-Based Auditing issues by delivering presentations and interactive session followed by a case study session. On day first, 20 participants from the Accounts Chamber of the Republic of Tajikistan attended the e-learning training session while 20 representatives from Turkey, Iran, Qatar, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Palestine and Belarus and 12 from SAI Pakistan participated in the training session on the second day.



The participants expressed their keen interest by participating in interactive / Q&A session. Lady participant from Tajikistan paid gratitude to the Auditor General of Pakistan office and read out Chairman of the Accounts Chamber of Tajikistan in Urdu.

Mr Javaid Jehangir, Auditor General of Pakistan appreciated the effort of the management of course and participants and discussed Audit institutions' vital role in improving Public service delivery. He said that Audit offices play a critical role in producing information on whether public resources are used with efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity and that public programmes generate impact. He further stated that Supreme Audit Institutions worldwide need to continue monitoring that public funds and public services are delivered correctly.






Department of the Auditor General of Pakistan is undertaking a major Automation and Digital transformation initiative aligned with Government's bid to promote e-governance, improve transparency and accountability of public sector organizations. With the World Bank's assistance, Auditor General's office is implementing a state-of-the-art software platform for building audit plans, preparing audits, analyzing relevant information, document result, and forming an audit opinion, communicate results, and monitor the progress of the audit parties. These initiatives will radically change the core auditing processes and the entire audit processes would be built around modern techniques and technologies.



The State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau of Palestine (SAACB) participated in meeting 16 of the ARABOSAI institutional capacity development committee, which intended to set an exceptional plan draft to control activities that fall under theme 1 of the plan. The latter involves reprogramming training courses and workshops to take into account the new needs of member SAIs, with COVID-19 crisis into spotlight. The committee includes SAIs of Palestine, Oman, Egypt, Iraq, Morocco, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar and Lebanon.

The Bureau was represented in the meeting by head of planning and development unit Yusuf Hantash and head of training department Samar Dweikat. The meeting was remotely held via Blackboard Collaborate platform.

ARABOSAI assign SAACB to audit financial statements The Bureau has finished on 24.04.2020 the audit of ARABOSAI financial statements of 2019, as per resolution of the general assembly to assign the Bureau and SAI of Yemen with financial statements audit of 2019/2020/2021.

Report of the financial audit committee (an independent auditor) was presented to head and members of the ARABOSAI executive council. The Bureau was represented by economy audit manager Muauya As'ad.



Deputy president Mrs. Amal Faraj and head of public relations Mrs. Lana Assi at the Japan's Emperor birthday celebration, held by Japan representative office to the State of Palestine.

Head of the Bureau President office Mr. Faisal Masri represented the Bureau at the 'SAIs measurement framework' workshop, held in Kuwait from 9-13 February, 2020 in cooperation with the World Bank under the IDI umbrella. Representatives from SAIs of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman have been to the workshop.



SAACB at PMF workshop

Performance measurement framework of SAIs, how SAIs and stakeholders use measurement reports and how to link PMF with values and benefits of SAIs were discussed.



Counselor Iyad Tayyem met representative of Republic of Poland to Palestine Mr. Beshimsov Shais, and discussed means of mutual cooperation between the Bureau and SAI of Poland, to make way for the twining project between the two, financed by European Union.

Head of politics division Mrs. Jastina Babian, resident expert Mr. Macei (handles discussion of arrangements to sign the agreement and initiate the project with SAACB and EU) and infrastructure audit manager Mr. Esmat Aburabea' were present.



The Bureau has been to meeting 14 of the ARABOSAI's professional and audit standards committee, hosted by SAI of Qatar. The meeting took place on 05.02.2020.

Mr. Shehada Alawneh represented the Bureau to the meeting, where representatives from SAIs of Kuwait, Oman, Morocco, Tunisia, Iraq, Jordan and ARABOSAI general secretary were also present.

The committee intends to support members SAIs in applying professional standards, documenting audits and establishing quality systems. It also proposes projects and initiatives to endorse good audit practices, to help enhance impact and value added of SAIs work.

Counselor Iyad Tayyem meets Mr. Majec Charnota, who acts as resident expert of the twining project between the Bureau and SAI of Poland. Project arrangements and agreement signature arrangements between the Palestinian and Polish sides have been discussed.



The project is financed by the European Union, and includes three main components, financial audit, huge data audit and customs/excise audit.



Ramallah, 29.01.2020 – Counselor Iyad Tayyem meets the Swedish National Audit Office expert Mr. Anders Herjevik. The latter briefed about what has been agreed with SAACB team regarding quality assurance system development.

Mr. Herjevik had a meeting with the team to discuss future modes of action in quality assurance. Further effort to reach the desired goal as agreed.



Counselor Iyad Tayyem meets the Swedish National Audit Office delegation, as part of continuation to training of performance audit department staff.

The Bureau has been to 'Mind the Gap' workshop held January 16, 2020 in Stockholm, Sweden. The workshop addressed the exchange of experience among SAIs in setting performance reports and interviewing techniques. Mr. Qastal Masri and Mr. Hisham Ghannam from performance audit department represented the Bureau.





Swedish National Audit Office (SNAO) held a workshop on January 08, 2020 in Stockholm about performance audit design, techniques of quantitative /qualitative data analysis and techniques of holding and analyzing interviews. Head of performance audit department Mr. Majdi Maitani represented the Bureau.

The workshop came as part of the agreement signed between the Bureau and SNAO, which includes several components, mainly enhancing the performance audit capacity.

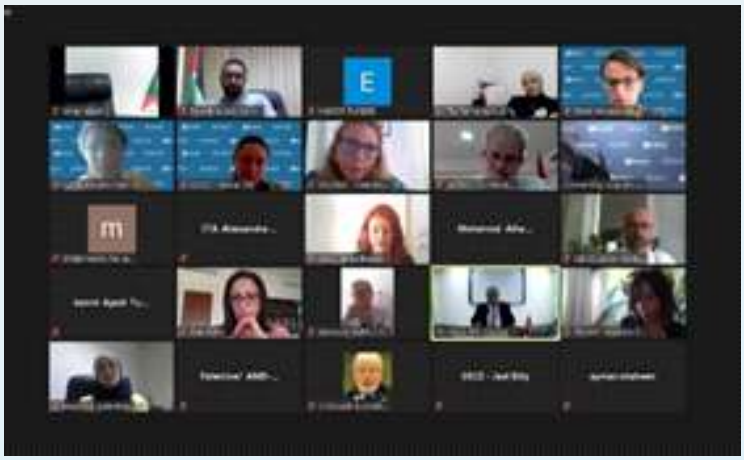


The Bureau, represented by Ms. Majdoleen Samour from the performance audit department, has been to the audit report quality assurance meeting, held in Oman.

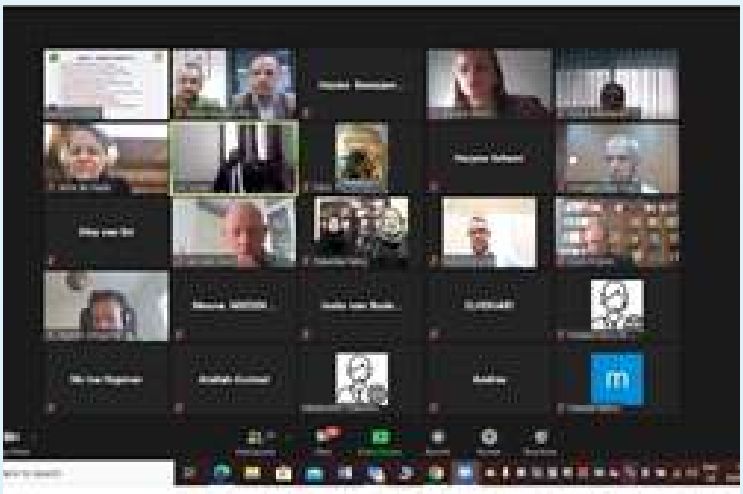
A quality assurance review was done to the report the Bureau set about university grants in Ministry of High Education, and also reports made by participating SAIs.

The review was done with INTOSAI standards-based performance audit quality assurance tool.

A seminar was held July 23, 2020 about public sector integrity at times of crisis, organized by OECD and MENA management program.
The Bureau talked about its role and modes followed to enhance audit in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.
acted, achievements and reports released during the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to challenges that face the Bureau as a result.



SAACB at OECD Seminar



SAACB at 'Sharaka' Program Meeting

SDGs audit team (head Saleh Musleh, communication officer Majdi Maitani) has been to the first meeting of Sharaka program 3, held Tuesday September 29, 2020. The program is supervised by Dutch Court of Accounts, and several Arab SAIs were present. Achievements of the team and influence of COVID-19 pandemic on audits were presented, besides discussion of future activities.



Meeting with SNAO

A Zoom meeting was held on September 15, 2020 between representatives of SNAO and performance audit department of the Bureau, as part of progress follow up of cooperation agreement signed between the two.

Several topics of the agreement were discussed, such as modes of performance audit enhancement, and incorporating them into the Bureau's strategic plan. Institutionalizing of department and its manual, with associated worksheets and templates, were also discussed. The Swedish team was informed about audit reports in progress and time estimated to finish them.



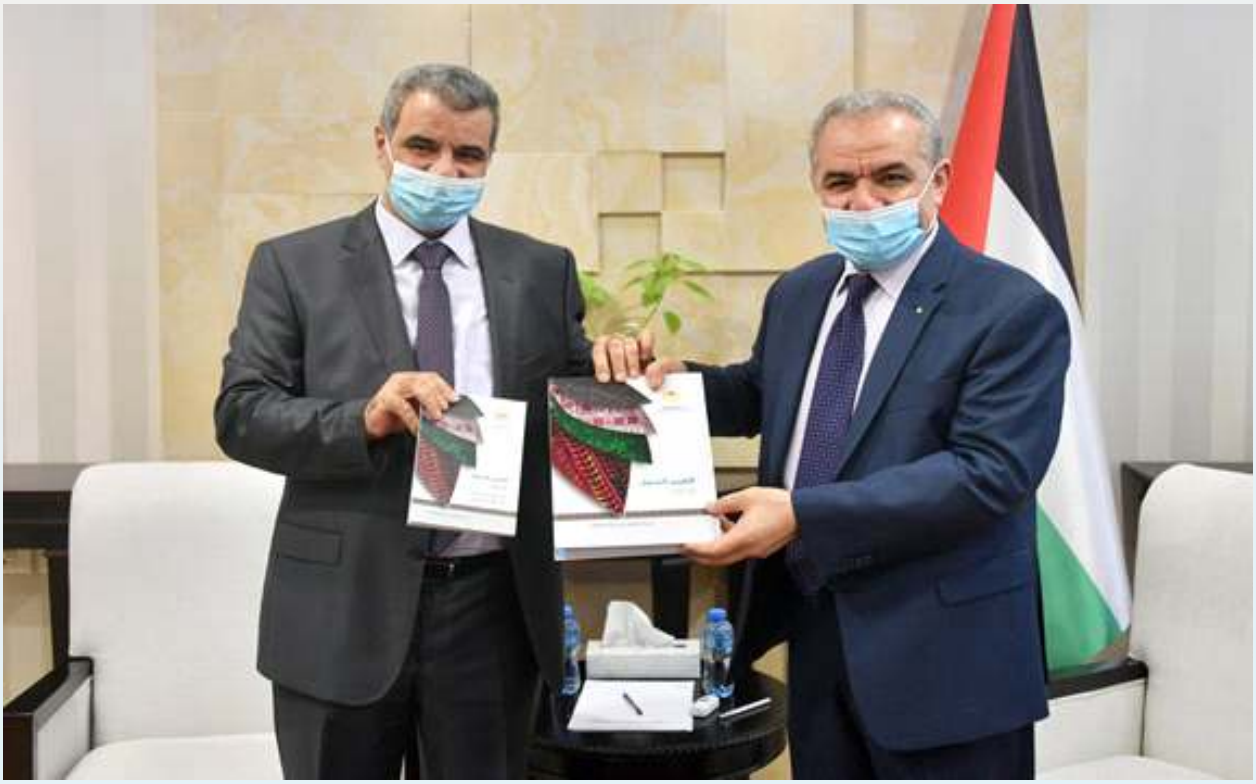
SAACB, Polish SAI discuss twining project

05-10-2020 Counselor Iyad Tayyem headed a meeting to discuss how the Polish SAI will react towards existing conditions, and proposed actions regarding twining project financed by the European Union. Future modes of action and the best ways that enable SAACB use trainings the will be provided by Polish experts have been discussed, besides key challenges that might face the project in light of COVID-19 pandemic and proposed solutions. It has been agreed to initiate the project early 2021.

Representatives from EU in Palestine, counterparts from Polish SAI, deputy president Amal Faraj, Esmat Abu Rabea from infrastructure audit department, Yusuf Hantash from planning unit and Lana Assi from public relations unit were present.

Counsellor Tayyem hands PM Annual Report

01-11-2020



Counselor Iyad Tayyem handed Mr. Prime Minister Dr. Mohammed Eshtayyeh the annual report of the previous year at the latter office, Ramallah.

Dr. Eshtayyeh spoke highly about effort made by SAACB and advancec level of audits at official and non-official foundations, in order to safeguard public funds and develop institutional action, stressing that all recommendations in reports should be followed up.

Counselor Tayyem stated that SAACB released 125 reports covering all sectors last year, and 319 complaints and notifications have been received. 303 previous complaints were completed, whereas the remaining ones have been reserved.

Counselor Tayyem Heads Palestine-Sweden Cooperation SC Meeting 15-06-2020



Ramallah – President of the Bureau Counselor Iyad Tayyem headed steering committee meeting of the institutional development cooperation project with the Swedish National Audit Office, which took place via video call.

The meeting intended to discuss work progress done in all project components, existing challenges and how cooperation partners will address them to ensure achievement of expected goals and findings.
Counselor Tayyem highlighted achievements made in all components and influence on audit and management performance. He spoke highly of the effort made by SNAO to train SAACB staff and help achieve the project goal; instate professional and institutional capacity and raise capacity of the Bureau, so it operates according to international audit standards.

SNAO Auditor General Ms. Helena Lindberg expressed happiness with this cooperation and all achievements made by project staff, and extended appreciation to management of the Bureau for continuous support to this project to make it happen.

The meeting included a presentation about project achievements by coordinator Lana Assi (performance audit, strategic planning, performance training, quality assurance, communication, human resources).

The partners agreed to maintain the cooperation for 2020-2021 in all of the project fields, with due consideration to health precautions required by the existing COVID-19 pandemic.

Attendants from SNAO included SNAO Deputy Auditor General Ms. Catharina Cappelin and Senior International Advisor Mr. Kameran Khudur, whereas from the Bureau the deputy president Mrs. Amal Faraj, director general Jaffal Jaffal, security and governance audit manager Samer Abu Qarei, head of president office Faisal Masri, performance audit acting manager Majdi Maitani, Hisham Ghannam from performance audit department and Ahd Abu Amsha from public relations were present.

SAB chairs the 61st meeting of ARABOSAI Governing Board 30-11-2020

His Excellency Sheikh Bandar Bin Mohammed Bin Saoud Al Thani, President of the State Audit Bureau of Qatar (SAB), President of the Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI), chaired the 61st meeting of the Organization's Governing Board, which was held on Monday, November 30th 2020, through video conference. Their Excellencies the heads of SAIs members of the Organization's Governing Board participated in the meeting.

His Excellency Sheikh Bandar Bin Mohammed Bin Saoud Al Thani, SAB President, the President of ARABOSAI, upon inaugurating the Board's meeting, stated that today's meeting is held in light of the continuation of the extraordinary circumstances imposed by the Coronavirus pandemic, and its consequent economic and social challenges, which made us more convinced and aware of the importance of enhancing our joint efforts to promoting our audit institutions, to overcome the negative impacts of this pandemic.

His Excellency stressed that the ARABOSAI was among the first to set up plans to deal with the repercussions of this pandemic, and to ensure the continuation of the Organization's work and efforts to enhance the capabilities of member SAIs, through the recommendations and proposals that were adopted at the extraordinary Council meeting held at the onset of the crisis, stressing his confidence that the Organization will emerge more powerful, effective and capable of achieving its goals, and keeping pace with the successive developments in the field of audit work.

The two-day meeting of the Governing Board discussed many important topics on its agenda, including the report of the Chairman of the Governing Board on the activities of the Board and the activities of the Organization since the 59th meeting of the Governing Board, in addition to the reports of the General Secretariat and sub-committees of the Organization, and the presentation of the SAIs' reports on their participation in the activities of committees and working groups emanating from the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), the approval of the Organization's accounting system, the closing account for the year 2019, and the 2020 budget.

The State Audit Bureau of Qatar launches a Professional Certification Program

In its pursuit to enhance the efficiency and professionalism of its employees in the audit field and to emphasize the importance of continuous professional development in improving the quality of the reports it issues and improving operational performance indicators, the State Audit Bureau (SAB) has launched – starting from November 2020 - the implementation of Professional Certification Program.

The Program aims to qualify auditors of through lectures and pilot tests to prepare them to pass the final exams for professional certificates. The launching of the Program was preceded by issuing a guide for professional certificates related to SAB work, which includs an introduction to each certificate and the requirements for obtaining it.

In view of the precautionary measures adopted to confront the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Program has been limited in its first stage to two certificates. These are the Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certificate.