

ALSAI representatives attend the 26th UN/INTOSAI Symposium

From 16 to 18 April 2024, the 26th UN/INTOSAI Symposium was held in Vienna, Austria, under the theme “Implementation of SDG 13 on Measures Taken for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Their Impacts: The Role, Contribution and Experience of Supreme Audit Institutions.”

The event, which is held every three years, was organized by the INTOSAI General Secretariat, in cooperation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). More than 200 representatives from 82 Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) and international partner organizations gathered to discuss the symposium’s theme.



During the three-day symposium, participants exchanged experiences on the role and contribution of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) to sustainable development, as well as on measures taken for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Representatives of the Supreme Audit Institutions discussed and shared their practices and experiences in conducting climate-related audits, creating the necessary conditions for auditing climate-related issues, and assessing the impact of these audits on the topic under discussion.



As part of the panel discussions, representatives of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) and the United Nations presented, among other topics, the various legal frameworks related to climate change measures,

assessments of national action plans and climate strategies, data analysis, evaluation mechanisms, financial and budgetary aspects, and key factors for the implementation and auditing of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopting a multi-stakeholder approach to ensure coherent policies.

The symposium also placed particular emphasis on the challenges faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as a result of climate change. Given the particular relevance of their audits and the lessons learned, a dedicated panel addressed this topic, featuring presentations by the SAIs of Jamaica, the Maldives, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Lucia.

The presentations concluded with remarks from a scientific perspective by Ms. Åsa Persson, Research Director and Deputy Director of the Stockholm Environment Institute, who presented the findings of studies conducted over the years focusing on climate change. She also highlighted the measures that governments need to consider in order to mitigate the impacts of climate change or adapt to them.

On the final day of the symposium, participants adopted the event's final document, "Conclusions and Recommendations," which sets out the symposium's key messages and aims to provide important guidance for future audits and actions related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as for cooperation among SAIs in this context.

Through the exchange of experiences and specific information across relevant areas of public-sector auditing, the UN/INTOSAI Symposium contribute to capacity building for SAIs (Goal 2 of the INTOSAI Strategic Plan) and support the development of research and methodologies in these areas.

The Albanian Supreme Audit Institution (ALSAI) was represented at the symposium by auditors Arminda Bushi and Redina Karapici.