

Representatives of the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution (ALSAI) participated in the Annual Meeting of the EUROSAT Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA), held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 3–4 October 2024 and hosted by the Chamber of Accounts, under the theme “Extreme Weather Events and Preparedness Strategies”

EUROSAT is an independent, non-political organization established to foster cooperation and promote the exchange of ideas, experiences and techniques among Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in the field of government auditing. As one of its working groups, the EUROSAT Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) embraces this spirit and aims to promote cooperation based on integrity, open communication and professional excellence in environmental auditing.

In principle, environmental auditing does not differ from the audit approaches applied by SAIs and may encompass all types of audits. In this context, audit attention may focus on the identification of environmental assets and liabilities, compliance with national and international legislation and conventions, as well as measures implemented by the audited entity to promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness, thereby supporting the principle of sustainability

The EUROSAT Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) was officially established by a decision of the 4th EUROSAT Congress, held in 1999. The Group’s main objective is to promote and support professional cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and experience.

The theme of the Annual Meeting focused on “Extreme Weather Events and Preparedness Strategies.” Everyone should be informed about the disasters and risks that may affect their immediate area, how to respond and where to go in the event of an evacuation, as well as how to receive real-time emergency alerts.

The meeting brought together 72 representatives of Supreme Audit Institutions from 34 countries, including Albania.

The meeting opened with a visit to the Alley of Honor in Baku, Azerbaijan, a public cemetery and memorial dedicated to prominent Azerbaijani figures and individuals associated with the country, including presidents, scientists and artists.

The opening remarks were delivered by Mr Marian Banaś, Chair of EUROSAT WGEA and President of the Supreme Audit Office of Poland; Mr Vugar Gulmammadov, Chairman of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Azerbaijan; and Mr Matanyahu Englman, State Comptroller and Ombudsman of Israel, who addressed the participants via video message.

The EUROSAT Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) held 6 online presentations and 14 PowerPoint presentations, delivered by representatives of the SAIs and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) attending the meeting. Some of the topics presented included:

1. “Too Much Water”, presented by representatives of the Belgian SAI.
2. “Response to and Environmental Consequences of Natural Disasters or Extreme Weather Events”, presented by representatives of the SAI of the Czech Republic.
3. “Preparedness: How to Assess the Achievement of Natural Disaster Resilience Objectives”, presented by representatives of the European Court of Auditors.
4. “Climate Risk Assessment”, presented by representatives of the European Court of Auditors.

On the second day of the meeting, discussions were also held among the participating members on the situation in their respective countries in relation to the topic under consideration. Participants discussed audits carried out by their respective institutions, the challenges and problems encountered, as well as their SAIs’ plans for new audits and assessments addressing this topic in the near future. They exchanged

experiences and shared recommendations on audit preparedness for disasters and emergencies, while also proposing potential solutions.



At this meeting, ALSAI was represented by auditors Ms Olisa Foto and Mr Bush Bushaj.