

### **The migration process**

This annex sets out our initial analysis of the migration process from the present IFPS to the revised IFPP. In particular, it examines the extent to which it will be necessary to modify the existing ISSAIs before admitting them into the IFPP and the implications this might have for the due process to be followed. If our proposal to revise the framework is taken up, we will need to carry out a more detailed analysis to confirm or modify the tentative position set out in the following paragraphs.

A further early task for the common forum would be to complement the classification principles with a revised numbering system and to allocate numbers to existing ISSAIs as they are transferred into the revised framework.

In some cases, it will be possible to migrate existing ISSAIs into the revised framework with only limited editorial changes. This is likely to be the case, for example, for most (if not all) of the existing levels one, two and three and for the existing Financial Audit Guidelines (ISSAIs 1003 to 1810), for which the Financial Audit Sub-committee (FAS) already intends to propose a project to separate out and review the Practice Notes. The migration of these pronouncements could be achieved under the “editorial changes” procedure described in point 2.2 of the revised due process document that will be submitted to INCOSAI 2016 for endorsement.

In the cases of the Performance and Compliance Audit Guidelines, revised versions of these documents are currently going through due process with a view to their endorsement at INCOSAI 2016. The changes introduced are being made largely to bring the guidelines into line with the level 3 fundamental principles – and thus aligned to the underlying structure of the revised framework. Once endorsed, these documents could be admitted into the revised framework as they stand for the moment, although the Performance Audit Sub-Committee (PAS) might be invited to consider whether the new ISSAI 3000 should be treated as the pronouncement on performance audit standards whilst the revised ISSAIs 3100 and 3200 should enter the revised framework as “supplementary performance audit guidance”. Similarly, the Compliance Audit Sub-committee (CAS) might be invited to review the new ISSAI 4000 in time for INCOSAI 2019 to clearly distinguish between those elements that are mandatory standards and those which are non-mandatory supplementary guidance. PAS and CAS, in conjunction with the PSC might be invited to assess whether any necessary changes could be considered as “editorial”, or if it will be necessary to apply full due process.

The guidelines on specific subjects (the “5000” series) in general describe subject matters which SAIs may have to audit. Often the audit will be a performance or compliance audit (or a combination) but some guidelines also concern aspects of financial auditing. In general, the terminology established by ISSAI 100 is still to be implemented in these guidelines so they do not necessarily refer to these three audit types. These guidelines should not set out any specific requirements as these should already be established in the standards for the three main audit types (although it may be quite appropriate for these guidelines to make a link between the principles and standards established for the three audit types and the specific audit procedures applicable to the specific subject concerned). There is a need to carry out a systematic review of these guidelines before they are brought into the revised framework. The common forum could support the Knowledge Sharing Committee (KSC) and

its working groups in this process by setting out in a transparent manner the criteria to be used to assess whether such guidelines, once revised and updated, are admitted into the framework.

Two sets of “5000” series guidelines in effect provide tools that SAIs can use in the context of peer reviews (ISSAIs 5600 – 5699) and for cooperative audits between SAIs (ISSAIs 5800 – 5899). Whilst the nature and final destination of these guidelines is different to the rest of the “5000” series, we suggest that they should go through the same review and updating process as above before being admitted into the framework.

The INTOSAI Guidance for Good Governance (INTOSAI GOV) contains guidance on matters within the administrative sphere of responsibility. As defined in 2007 this *‘include documents guiding SAIs in their assessment of the measures taken by administrative authorities or guiding administrative authorities and encouraging good practice’*. The current INTOSAI GOVs serve a variety of purposes and have few common denominators. In some cases, documents in the INTOSAI GOV-series aim to provide guidance to SAIs and their auditors. As a result, valuable guidance has often been split between the current ISSAI 5000-series (describing the subject matter) and text in the related INTOSAI GOVs, which is describing relevant audit criteria. Readers may therefore find it difficult to identify ‘the full story’. In other cases, INTOSAI GOV’s convey INTOSAI’s views the wider internal community on matters like auditing arrangements and the standard-setting process for accounting standards. In these cases, important messages risk getting lost as they are ‘hidden away’ in the INTOSAI GOVs.

In the proposed IFPP the INTOSAI GOVs are therefore abolished as a separate category. An assessment will need to be made for each of the texts to determine how it can best be put to good use:

- texts that aims at providing guidance to auditors may be integrated into the auditing guidance (GUID);
- texts that constitute INTOSAI core principles may be included in this category; and
- other valuable guidance which may either be included as other guidance or simply linked to in line with other materials that can be found on [www.issai.org](http://www.issai.org).