Capacity Development Program

The capacity building working groups have made significant progress in the development of the 5 manuals and training materials. The progresses of the work that have been completed so far are as follows:

i) the Human Resources Management Manual is being finalized for editing and approval by the Governing Board;
ii) the Financial Audit Manual has been being prepared for review by a team of technical experts of the New Zealand Office of the Auditor General, in February 2011;
iii) the Performance Audit Manual is being reviewed;
v) the Tier 3 Supervisory Roles training material is being finalized for pilot training in March 2011.

The pilot training on Tier 2 Intermediate Auditing will be held at Mercure Hotel, Auckland, New Zealand on 14-25 February 2011. The Tier 2 working group will prepare for this training at the PASAI Secretariat on 7-11 February.

14 participants from 13 SAIs have registered for the Tier 3 Supervisory Roles pilot training which will be held at Novotel, Nadi, Fiji between 14 and 25 March 2011. The Tier 3 working group will hold its planning meeting prior to the pilot training.

The second set of working groups have commenced with their projects following the second “kick-off” conference in November 2010. These include reporting guidelines, quality assurance guidelines, Tier 1 Fundamentals of government auditing and Tier 4 Management of audits.

Cooperative Performance Audit

The second cooperative performance audit on access to safe drinking water is underway. The objective of this audit is to assess the effectiveness of actions taken by key agency/agencies to improve access to safe drinking water. In this audit, the 10 participating SAIs are examining if legal and policy framework to ensure access to safe drinking water exists and whether they are being implemented effectively.

The audit teams should now be completing their field work and start drafting their audit reports. A report-writing guidance has been sent to all audit teams to use. Some SAIs which requested on-site support were assisted by the Capacity Building Advisor, Mr Allen Parker and the Performance Audit Expert, Ms Claire Kelly.
Secretariat

Audit - The audit of the 2010 accounts has been completed and the audit management report has been discussed and finalized with the auditors CST NEXIA. The audited financial statements and the audit management report will be tabled in the 4th Governing Board meeting to be held in Auckland, New Zealand on 2-3 February 2011.

Annual SAI Stocktake – To date, the following SAIs have yet to return the completed SAI Stocktake questionnaires: American Samoa, French Polynesia, Kosrae, Nauru, New Caledonia, Pohnpei, Queensland and Vanuatu. The completed questionnaire was due on 12 November 2010.

PASAI Calendar

The dates for various activities over the next 3 months are as follows:

• 2-3 February - Governing Board meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
• 7-11 February - Tier 2 working group meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
• 14-25 February - Tier 2 pilot training, Auckland, New Zealand;
• 28 Feb-4 March - Reporting guidelines working group meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
• 9-11 March - Tier 3 working group meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
• 14-25 March - Tier 3 pilot training, Nadi, Fiji;
• 28 Mar - 1 April, Quality assurance working group, mid-point meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
• 4-8 April, Cooperative audit reporting meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
• 11-18 April, Tier 4 mid-point meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
• 11-18 April, Commonwealth congress, Namibia;
• 28-29 April, ACAG & ACPAC meetings, Perth, Australia.

For any clarification of any of the items in this update, please do not hesitate to contact the PASAI Secretariat.

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