

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL THREE (3) YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 2013 TO 2015

MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of the Auditor General is to serve the people of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, to protect the public's trust and promote Government accountability by conducting independent audits and examinations.

Accountability

The need for accountability has caused a demand for more information about government programs and services. Public officials, legislators, and citizens want and need to know whether government funds are handled properly and in compliance with laws and regulations. They also want and need to know whether government organizations, programs, and services are achieving their purposes and whether these organizations, programs, and services are operating economically and efficiently.



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against Corruption (MESICIC)

- **Professional Standards**

- We audit in accordance with International Organization of Supreme Audit Institute (INTOSAI) Auditing Standards, Government Auditing Standards, Guidelines and Procedures established by Bahamas Government (Financial Regulations 1975 and Financial Administration and Audit Act 2010).



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PROPOSED STRATEGIES:

- To increase the number of professional staff by five (5) over the next (3) three years.
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- The staff should collectively possess adequate professional proficiency to perform the audit functions.

Staff will be equipped in the following ways:

- Training at the various level;
- Ensure that all staff acquaints themselves with the Code of Ethics.



Maintain best practice and comply with audit methodologies promulgated by relevant professional bodies listed below:

- Operational Audit – INTOSAI Standards.
- Financial Audit – International Auditing Standards/Government Auditing Standards
- And local Regulation and Acts.
- Value-For-Money- INTOSAI Standards and consultants from National Audit Office in London and the Office of the Auditor General Canada.



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- Information Technology – continue to train staff on using the audit software (tool) IDEA.
- Auditing of International Loans- using guidelines established by the loan institution and other relevant standards.
- Environmental Audits
- Continue update of audit manuals and program guides



• **BENEFITS:**

- Perform audits that are focused on improving transparency and accountability within government. The findings from the audit may reveal the following:
- Instances of fraud, irregularities and corruption.
- Increasing the effectiveness of government spending.
- Gain the trust of the citizens in the accountability process of Government.



INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

- Implement a professional and technical development program aimed at ensuring that all staff is sufficiently competent to realize the strategic objectives of the department.
- We continue to out source special audit assignments. The assignments will be worked by out sourced agents (accounting firm) and staff from the OAG. This arrangement allow for the OAG staff to work along with the (accounting firm) and receive on the job training (capacity building).



PROPOSED STRATEGIES

- Implement a formal written development policy.
- Establish and maintain documentation to evaluate and identify future needs in OAG.
- Structured training program both internal and external.
- Internal – workshops and on the job training.



- External – overseas seminars and workshops including CAROSAI’s workshops
- Continued evaluation of all staff to identify potential and weakness.
- Conduct internal quality assurance/peer review to ensure standards are adopted and maintained.
- Attract and retain competent staff.



BENEFITS:

- Enhance staff confidence.
- Improve team spirit in the work place.
- Strengthen quality assurance frame work.



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TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES

The Government of the Bahamas has a budget of over \$1,000,000,000 (One Billion Dollars). Transactions are predominantly initiated and processed using the computer. Therefore, to effectively audit transactions; the auditor should perform audits using the information technology tool available. This would be more efficient, effective and timely.



PROPOSED STRATEGY

Continue to develop and implement fully the IDEA Data Analysis Software auditing tool. In addition, continue to provide relevant training for staff in this area.

Human Resource and Administration

- Continue to plan relevant training and development plan for the Office.
- Automation of activities in HR (JD Edwards) to improve efficiency.
- Automation of the registry function.
- Modernization and maintenance of an accessible, useful and up-to-date official web site.
- Recruit additional qualified staff.



ACCOUNT SECTION

- Upgrading of the accounts section.
- Automation of the key processes (Expenditure), online connection with the Treasury.

BENEFITS

- Maintain a professional work environment and foster a culture of constant pursuit of excellence.



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Proposed Strategy

- Focus - on the critical areas and continue to train staff in H.R

Capacity Building

- This is very important to ensure that the quality and quantity of work continue to improve. The work would be completed in an efficient and professional manner.

Improved Independence of the Office of the Auditor General (OAG)



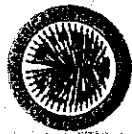
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Proposed Strategy

- Meet with relevant officials and work towards financial and managerial or administrative autonomy and appropriate human, material and financial resources.

Benefits

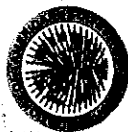
- It strengthens accountability, transparency and integrity of the OAG. It also has a positive impact on the trust society has towards the government.
- To be able to perform our functions and ensure potential value to citizen, OAG needs to be seen as trustworthy; therefore the importance of independence.



MESICIC

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS ???



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