

**ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION  
SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTIONS  
(ECOSAI)**

**CHARTER**

---

**19 APRIL 1994**

---

# CHARTER

## PREAMBLE

Conscious of the close economic and cultural ties among the countries of Economic Cooperation Organization the heads of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, Republic of Turkmenistan and Republic of Uzbekistan met in Bhurban (Pakistan) during 17-19 April 1994 with a view to.

**IMPROVING** relation, in the field of public audit, among the State of ECO possessing different experience of economic and social developments;

**COOPERATING** in sharing the burden of professional development of the auditors of ECO countries;

**PROMOTING** exchange of view and experience among SAIs of member states of ECO, which have evolved on different lines and perform different functions; and

**ACTING** with the spirit of cooperation and brotherhood contained in the Charter of ECO resolved to form and organization of Supreme Audit Institutions of the countries of ECO in accordance with the following provisions.

## DEFINITIONS

### Article 1

In the present Charter:

- a) "ECOSAI" shall mean the external Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions of ECO, and other member countries.
- b) "Member Institution" shall mean the Supreme Audit Institutions of countries of ECO and those admitted to ECOSAI under Article 13 of this charter;
- c) "Assembly" shall mean the Assembly of ECOSAI;
- d) "Governing Board" shall mean the Governing Board of ECOSAI;
- e) "Secretariat" shall mean the Secretariat of ECOSAI.

## OBJECTIVES

### Article 2

The organization of Supreme Audit Institution of ECO countries, inspired by the principle of equality of all member institutions and by the respect for the legal frameworks governing each member institution and seeking the possibility of affiliating to International Organization of Supreme Audit Institution (INTOSAI), shall aim at:

- a) exchanging knowledge and skills in government auditing among member institutions;
- b) sharing experience in the practice and development of auditing;

- c) promoting development of auditing standards;
- d) fostering mutual collaboration and brotherhood among the staff of member institutions;
- e) developing information and database on government auditing practices of member SAIs,
- f) encouraging joint research activities and transfer of knowledge in government auditing.

## **ORGANS**

### **Article 3**

Objectives of ECOSAI shall be achieved through the following organs:

- a) The Assembly
- b) The Governing Board
- c) The Secretariat

## **ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 4**

4.1 The Assembly shall be the policy making body of ECOSAI comprising heads of Supreme Audit Institutions of member ECO and other members countries or their duly authorized representatives.

4.2 The Assembly shall hold its ordinary meetings triennially. It can meet in an extraordinary session at the initiative of the Governing Board or at the request of half of the member institutions. In order to be validly constituted, an absolute majority of the member institutions must be represented. The meetings of the Assembly shall be chaired by the President of the Governing Board.

4.3 The decisions of the Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote except for the cases stipulated otherwise in the Charter. Each member institution has the right to one vote regardless of the number of representatives

4.4 Observers can attend the General Assembly but shall not have the right to vote

## **POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 5**

The Assembly shall have the powers and responsibilities to:

- a) take decisions regarding issues and proposals submitted for discussion for implementing the objectives of ECOSAI;
- b) constitute special committees for study of matters of professional and technical interest;
- c) modify the Charter, on the proposals submitted by the Governing Board or one-third of the member institutions, by passing a resolution of the Assembly by a two-third majority of those present;
- d) approve ECOSAI budget and accounts;
- e) elect two member countries as Audit Committee of ECOSAI and to approve the audit report;

- f) elect three members of the Governing Board;
- g) decide the venue and date for the next meeting;
- h) discuss and decide on any other matter of common interest.

## **GOVERNING BOARD**

### **Article 6**

- 6.1 The Governing Board shall consist of the following five members;
- a) The President of the Governing Board who will be the Head of the SAI where the forthcoming ordinary session of Assembly will be held;
  - b) The Secretary General of ECOSAI;
  - c) Three members to be elected by the Assembly for a duration of three years.
- 6.2 The Governing Board shall meet at least once a year. At least three members should be present at the meetings of the Government Board.
- 6.3 The Governing Board shall take its decisions by the majority of votes cast.
- 6.4 The Governing Board shall have the responsibility to:
- a) oversee the fulfillment of the Charter of ECOSAI;
  - b) adopt decisions necessary for the functioning of ECOSAI;
  - c) adopt the draft budget and to submit it to the Assembly;
  - d) submit the accounts together with the report of the Audit Committee and its own comments to the Assembly for approval;
  - e) submit a report on ECOSAI activities to each ordinary session of the Assembly;
  - f) fulfill any other duties entrusted to it by the Assembly.

## **SECRETARIAT**

### **Article 7**

- 7.1 The Secretariat shall be a permanent body with headquarters at Islamabad in Pakistan. It shall be headed by the head of SAI of Pakistan.
- 7.2 The Secretariat shall have the responsibilities to:
- a) carry out the decisions of the Assembly and the Governing Board;
  - b) prepare the draft budget of ECOSAI and to submit it to the Governing Board;
  - c) implement the budget and to maintain the accounts and the records of ECOSAI;
  - d) organize professional studies and seminars for the pursuit of ECOSAI objectives;
  - e) maintain close liaison with ECO Secretariat;
  - f) provide secretarial and documentation facilities to the Assembly and committees;
  - g) carry out any other function assigned by the Assembly or by the Governing Board;
  - h) submit the annual financial statements to the Governing Board.

## COMMITTEES

### **Article 8**

8.1 There will be standing Audit Committee for the ECOSAI accounts consisting of two member SAIs.

8.2 There will be a standing Training Committee for the ECOSAI consisting of ECOSAI Governing Board members<sup>1</sup>.

8.3 The Assembly can establish committees for different functions. They would be advisory bodies and their reports will be presented to the Assembly.

## TRAINING

### **Article 9**

9.1 The Training Committee shall prepare training plan for member SAIs and decide on other matter pertaining to ECOSAI Trainings.

9.2 Observers shall be invited to all training activities from host SAI

## AUDIT

### **Article 10**

10.1 The standing Audit Committee shall audit the accounts of ECOSAI and report to the Assembly through the Governing Board.

10.2 The standing Audit Committee would be elected for three years from among the member institutions which are not members of the Governing Board.

10.3 The Secretariat shall furnish the standing Audit Committee for the audit of accounts of ECOSAI with the documents and information required for the performance of its duties and shall assist it in the fulfillment of its tasks.

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

### **Article 11**

11.1 The expenditure incurred by ECOSAI shall be met by:

- a) annual contribution of US\$ 1,000<sup>2</sup> by each member institution;
- b) funding from any donor agencies, organizations and institutions;
- c) sale of publications;
- d) development of training materials and imparting training to non-members.
- e) observers shall not have to pay contribution

---

<sup>1</sup>During the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Governing Board held at Tehran, Iran in May 21-22, 2000 Training Committee of ECOSAI comprising representatives of the Supreme Audit Institutions of Turkey, Iran and Pakistan was set up (Para-2-d)

<sup>2</sup>During the 17th ECOSAI Governing Board Meeting held at Tehran, Iran on November 8, 2012 (Para-8)

11.2 Expenditure for organizing meetings of the Assembly and committees shall be borne by the host country.

## **LANGUAGE**

### **Article 12**

English shall be the official language of ECOSAI. The Secretariat would, however, provide translations wherever possible and unavoidable. However, all documentation will be in English.

## **ADMISSION**

### **Article 13**

13.1 Any Supreme Audit Institution of the ECO or any other country may become member **or Observer** of ECOSAI. Such application shall be addressed to the Assembly through the Secretariat. The **Governing Board** shall decide admission of new member by a unanimous vote. **In case of tie in voting, the vote of the President shall be the deciding vote.**

## **WITHDRAWAL**

### **Article 14**

Every member SAI **or Observer** have the right to withdraw from ECOSAI provided written notification of withdrawal is addressed by the withdrawing member to the Secretariat.

## **DISSOLUTION**

### **Article 15**

The Assembly may dissolve the Organization with a vote of two-third majority.

## **OBSERVER IN ASOSAI**

### **Article 16**

16.1 ECOSAI has been given observer status in ASOSAI during 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly held from 19-22 September, 2018.

16.2 ECOSAI **General Assembly** shall be represented by a committee in ASOSAI.

16.3 The committee shall comprise of one representative from ECOSAI Secretariat and one from ECOSAI Presidency or any other member SAI, whom President shall nominate.

16.4 The expenditure incurred for travel and boarding/lodging of committee shall be borne from ECOSAI Account

## **ADOPTION OF THE CHARTER**

### **Article 17**

17.1 The present Charter comes into force on 19 April 1994

17.2 The amended charter comes into force on October 22, 2019

## **AMENDMENTS**

### **Article 18**

This Charter may be amended by a vote of 2/3 of the total membership of ECOSAI at any regular meeting of the Assembly, or at a special meeting called for such purposes provided that notice of such meeting containing the proposed amendments shall be served to the members at least three months before the said meeting.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup>During the 7<sup>th</sup> ECOSAI Assembly held at Ankara, Turkey on October 18, 2016, it was decided that the SAI Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) be officially inducted in ECOSAI after completing necessary requirements. After obtaining unanimous vote on this proposal it was decided that formalities will be completed after TRNC applies in writing for permanent membership status of ECOAI (Para-12).

<sup>4</sup>ECOSAI Charter amended during the 8<sup>th</sup> ECOSAI Assembly held at Istanbul, Turkey on October 22, 2019