



## EU CONTACT COMMITTEE

### 2015 JOINT SEMINAR

#### FISCAL POLICY AUDIT NETWORK AND EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY AUDIT NETWORK

Lisboa, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015

## CONCLUSIONS

### *Conclusion I – Reinforcement of SAIs work*

The Networks Seminar proved to be a good forum to reinforce cooperation and coordination among SAIs, mainly through disseminating knowledge, sharing information, and by identifying SAI priorities within the challenges derived from the Fiscal Policy and Europe 2020 Strategy frameworks.

The SAIs have an important role in assuring accountability and transparency as further developments in fiscal policy measures take place at the EU and national levels, and where public money is used within the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The Fiscal Policy Audit Network noted the recent developments regarding the Banking Union and the conclusions of the EU CC Working Group on the Banking Union, highlighting a potential audit gap of the supervision on significant banks.

### *Conclusion II – Strengthening cooperation and leveraging audit results within the EU framework*

The development of cooperative audits among SAIs is not only important in terms of reinforcing cooperation on auditing Europe 2020 Strategy and fiscal policy related topics, but also by leveraging audit results in the reinforced European integration process.

Both networks are useful tools to stimulate SAIs work at a national level and in a coordinated way by sharing methodologies, good practices and coordinating cooperative audits. The “Guide for Cooperative Audits” presented at the Seminar (in annex) was accepted as a main framework to operationalize the work ahead.

The networks took note of the recent audit cooperation between the ECA and some EU SAIs, which was carried out in the context of preparing the ECA’s performance chapter of its 2014 annual report and presented in a workshop held on 3 June 2015 in Lisbon. The results, experience and good practices of the cooperation exercise were highlighted as an example of successful cooperation and communication between SAIs. The ECA looks



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forward to furthering and strengthening this cooperation in the context of preparing its 2015 annual report.

## ***Conclusion III – Cooperative audits***

The networks will propose to the Contact Committee the launch of parallel audits in 2016 in the two following themes:

- Europe 2020 Strategy Audit Network: *“Use of public/EU funds to promote education and labour market needs”*
- Fiscal Policy Audit Network: *“Underlying risks for the sustainability of public finances”*

During the second semester the audit teams, coordinated by the Networks chair, will prepare a detailed plan in order to launch the audits in 2016.

The network chairs will continue to involve all SAIs on these audits through sharing information on the audits, procedures and results.