

EUROSAI WGEA Members

11 June 2019

Invitation to the Joint Biodiversity Conference of EUROSAI WGEA and European Court of Auditors

Dear Colleagues,

The Auditor General of Estonia, the Chair of EUROSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA), and the President of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) are pleased to invite your Supreme Audit Institution to attend the Joint Biodiversity Conference of EUROSAI WGEA and ECA. The Joint Conference will be held from 22 to 24 October in Luxembourg, at the European Court of Auditors and will include a whole separate conference day dedicated to various biodiversity aspects as well as the two-day 17th Annual Meeting of EUROSAI WGEA.

Concerns over the loss of biodiversity are being voiced with increasing strength, most recently by the intergovernmental science-policy platform IPBES in its global assessment report wherein Europe is no exception as regards its grim outlook for the future. Conservation and use of biodiversity need to be carefully managed to prevent the deterioration of nature's contributions to people and to preserve its inherent value.

Our Joint Conference has been designed with a view to offer an opportunity to learn about recent European biodiversity trends and policies from experts as well as to discuss the opportunities and challenges of auditing biodiversity. Keynote presentations, group discussions, as well as opportunities to share relevant experience are included in the programme.

From the Working Group's perspective, discussions over the new Strategic Plan for 2020-2023 planned for the 17th Annual Meeting will be relevant and support from all EWGEA members will be valuable and highly appreciated. Likewise, continued discussions over potential future cooperative audits are an important agenda item we hope to have participants actively engaged in.

Enclosed you will find the draft agenda, the registration form including hotel booking instructions, and some further information on the Joint Conference.

We kindly ask you to fill in the registration form and submit it to ECA (Eca-EUROSAI-WGEA-Registration@eca.europa.eu) and the Secretariat of EUROSAI WGEA (eurosaiwgea@riigikontroll.ee) by **10 September 2019** at the latest.

Updated information about the Joint Conference will be posted on the EUROSAI WGEA website www.eurosaiwgea.org in due course.

We convey our very best regards and look forward to welcoming representatives of your office to Luxembourg in October.

Yours sincerely,



Janar Holm
Auditor General of Estonia
Chair of EUROSAI WGEA

Klaus-Heiner Lehne
President of the
European Court of Auditors

Attached:

1. Draft agenda
2. Registration form including hotel booking information
3. Further information on the Joint Conference