

## SPECIAL SESSION 5

# How can Supreme Audit Institutions support recovery and implementation of the SDGs in the Arab region?

Wednesday 16 March 2022, 14:45 – 16:15 Beirut time

### Background and objective

The COVID-19 crisis is putting unprecedented stress on national social and economic systems across countries in the Arab region, as elsewhere, impacting the capacity of these systems and institutions to deliver on the 2030 Agenda; and increasing the risk of decisions being taken without paying due attention to principles of effectiveness and efficiency. Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) play a very important role in supporting governments ensure transparency and accountability in managing the recovery response to the COVID-19 crisis, maintain discipline in public financial management, and live up to their development commitments.

This special session aims to:

- examine the main obstacles that SAIs have been dealing with in delivering on the key function of upholding transparency and accountability standards and in supporting the delivery of the SDGs, and the solutions to overcome them;
- explore opportunities for a stronger and more effective role for SAIs in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda; and
- identify actions needed to empower SAIs in the delivery of a transformational, green and people-centered COVID-19 recovery that leaves no one behind.

### Questions to be addressed

1. What factors and arrangements need to be available to support SAIs discharge their role more effectively?
2. How can SAIs work with government/the legislature/Civil society organisations (CSOs) to enhance the impact of audit reports?
3. What role can SAIs potentially play to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and a green, inclusive and resilient recovery that leaves no one behind?
4. What role can the executive and the legislature play to empower SAIs? And how to develop productive relations with SAIs?
5. What are the key barriers to a productive collaboration between SAIs and CSOs generally and in the Arab region more specifically?

### Moderator

- **Mr. Karam Karam**, Regional Advisor on Governance, ESCWA

### Panelists

- **Mr. Mohamed Abu Zayd**, Director General, Central Auditing Organization, Egypt
- **Mr. Saleh Mousa Mosleh**, Director General of the Department for Control of Social and Cultural Services, State Audit Administrative Control Bureau, Palestine
- **Mr. Agung Firman Sampurna**, Chairman, Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia
- **Ms. Archana Shirsat**, Deputy Director General – Professional and Relevant SAIs Department, IDI
- **Mr. Osama Al Azzam**, Director General, Cities and Villages Development Bank, Jordan
- **Mr. Adel Abdulaziz Al-Sarawi**, Vice President, State Audit Bureau, Kuwait
- **Ms. Kinda Hattar**, MENA Regional Advisor, Transparency International

### Discussant

- **Mr. Arnaud Peral**, UN Resident Coordinator, Tunisia

**This Special Session will be organized over Zoom. To join, please register via [this link](#). In-person participants of AFSD can attend the session in Committee Room 2, B1 level.**