

Klaus-Heiner Lehne

President

To the Heads of INTOSAI member SAIs

Luxembourg, 11 March 2022 DOP131860EN01-22PP-OR.docx

Subject: Call on the members of INTOSAI to stand up for peace and solidarity with

Ukraine following the attack by the Russian Federation

Dear colleagues,

I am turning to you on behalf of the Contact Committee¹ of EU supreme audit institutions to stand united for peace and solidarity with Ukraine.

The EU Contact Committee hereby expresses its solidarity with and support for the people, the state and the institutions of Ukraine, in line with the values promoted by the European Union and its Member States, notably to enhance peace and justice, and to provide unconditional support to the foundations of freedom, democracy and sovereignty.

The illegal invasion perpetrated by the Russian Federation and supported by the Republic of Belarus against the sovereign state of Ukraine constitutes a breach of international law and a violation of human rights, and should be unanimously condemned. The members of the EU Contact Committee hence decided to refrain from any cooperation with or participation in events or activities organised by the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation or the State Control Committee of the Republic of Belarus, or any other government institution of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus.

¹ The EU Contact Committee is the assembly of the heads of supreme audit institutions of EU Member States and the European Court of Auditors.

The attack by the Russian Federation against Ukraine also constitutes a threat to the implementation of the values and principles underlying cooperation at INTOSAI level. In the spirit and in support of the <u>statement</u> issued by the Governing Board of EUROSAI, and being themselves members of INTOSAI, the SAIs of the Contact Committee therefore call on all the INTOSAI members to reaffirm the joint commitment for peace, justice and strong institutions, and to condemn the invasion of Ukraine.

In my capacity as Contact Committee chair and on behalf of all its members, I invite you to publicly address this outrageous situation by all appropriate means and to join our call for peace and solidarity with Ukraine.

Yours sincerely,

Klaus-Heiner Lehne, on behalf of the Contact Committee of EU supreme audit institutions