

# **Status Outline of EU SAI Contact Committee Activities**

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October 2013

## **Working Groups and Networks**

**Working Group on Structural Funds V**

**Working Group on Activities on Value Added Tax**

**Joint Working Group on Audit Activities (JWGAA)**

**Network on National SAI Reports on EU Financial Management**

**Agricultural Experts Network**

**Network on Fiscal Policy Audit**

**Network on Lisbon Strategy / Europe 2020 Audit**

**Task force on the tasks and roles of the external public audit in the light of recent developments in the European Union economic governance**

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Working Group on Structural Funds V</b>
Purpose/Mandate	In 2011, the Contact Committee mandated the Working Group on Structural Funds to continue its reviews of Structural Funds issues and specifically to carry out an audit on “Simplification of the regulations in Structural Funds”.
Status/Outcome/Results in 2013	From January until March 2013 the Core Group compiled a draft composite report on the basis of the national country reports. In a plenary meeting in April the Working Group discussed the draft composite report. The revised draft was discussed by means of circulation within the Working Group and finalized for the Contact Committee meeting.
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	<a href="http://www.contactcommittee.eu">http://www.contactcommittee.eu</a> CIRCABC
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-6 February 2013: Core Group meeting to review the country reports and outline the final report (Ljubljana, Slovenia)</li> <li>• 15-17 April 2013: Working Group meeting to discuss the draft final report (Sofia, Bulgaria)</li> <li>• 16 May 2013: Meeting between the Core Group and representatives of the European Commission (DG Financial Programming and Budget), exchange of experiences (Brussels, Belgium)</li> </ul>
WG/Network/TF members and observers	<p><u>Members</u>: SAIs of Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Sweden</p> <p><u>Observer</u>: SAI of the Czech Republic</p> <p><u>Core Group</u>: SAIs of the Germany (Chair), Slovenia and the Netherlands</p>
Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF	<p><u>Contact person</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horst-Raimund Wulle, Bundesrechnungshof, Horst-Raimund.Wulle@brh.bund.de</li> <li>• Jana Oeser, Bundesrechnungshof, Jana.Oeser@brh.bund.de</li> </ul> <p><u>Chair</u>: Rolf-Dietrich Kammer, Member of the Bundesrechnungshof</p>
Activity Plan for 2014	Subject to a mandate by the Contact Committee the Working Group would like to continue its work and to carry out a parallel audit on “Analysis of the errors in public procurement within the Structural Funds programs”.

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Working Group on Activities on Value Added Tax</b>
Purpose/Mandate	Forum for the exchange of experiences about functioning of the VAT system in the EU with special interest in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monitoring developments in the area of VAT;</li> <li>• administrative cooperation among Member States;</li> <li>• measuring VAT loss due to fraud and assessing effectiveness of anti-fraud policies;</li> <li>• tackling intra-Community VAT Fraud;</li> <li>• promoting cooperation on VAT audit.</li> </ul>
Status/Outcome/Results in 2013	<u>Core Group 1</u> Report on methodologies for constructing appropriate VAT yield indicators and measuring VAT gap. <u>Core Group 2</u> Progress report with new structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on recent activities at EU level regarding Anti VAT Fraud Strategy</li> <li>• on latest developments in the Member States regarding legislation, audit findings and new fraud trends</li> <li>• on the outcomes of the questionnaire for the topic “risk management”</li> </ul>
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	<a href="http://www.contactcommittee.eu">http://www.contactcommittee.eu</a> CIRCABC
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	<u>Plenary</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting of the Working Group in Poiana Brasov, Romania, on 9-10 September 2013</li> </ul> <u>Core Group 1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network consultation on report drafted by chairman (SAI IT) on methodologies for constructing appropriate VAT yield indicators and measuring VAT gap.</li> <li>• Discussion of revised estimation methodology and assumptions of Reckon final report.</li> <li>• Focus on the economic effects of legislative changes relating to the increase of rates in a period of economic recession.</li> </ul> <u>Core Group 2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting in Warsaw on 21 - 22 March 2013.</li> <li>• Network consultation on the progress report.</li> <li>• Initiative to establish a secretariat for administrative support of the host/chair of the working group.</li> </ul>
WG/Network/TF members and observers	<u>Members:</u> Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom. <u>Observers:</u> Greece, European Court of Auditors.

<p>Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF</p>	<p>Alexandru Costache (Romanian Court of Accounts) – Chair of Working Group, <a href="mailto:alexandru.costache@rcc.ro">alexandru.costache@rcc.ro</a>, copy to Mr. Dragos Budulac – Liaison Officer and Head of the International Relation Unit at <a href="mailto:dragos.budulac@rcc.ro">dragos.budulac@rcc.ro</a></p> <p>Chairmanship of Working Group is on a rotational basis. With effect from October 2012, following the Contact Committee Meeting, the Chair of the Working Group is the SAI of Romania.</p> <p>The previous Chair of the WG was SAI of Hungary (2010-2012).</p>
<p>Activity Plan for 2014</p>	<p><b><u>Core group 1</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging and reviewing national audits on accuracy and comparability of VAT gap estimates made by applying the top-down methodology as set out by Reckon but using data drawn from the <i>relevé</i> annually submitted by MS to the EU Commission.</li> <li>• Encouraging national SAIs to audit the process through which national <i>relevé</i> are constructed and pursuing timely availability of <i>relevé</i> to the VAT Expert Group – Core Group 1 to produce VAT gap estimates to be made available to participant SAIs and to the plenary Group for further consideration.</li> <li>• Addressing the question of distinct quantification of VAT gap components, focusing on fraud.</li> <li>• Analyse the distorting effects that are determined by the use of VAT Clearing Account with other taxes or security contributions. The dissociation of the neutrality of clearing, operation merely cash, with respect to the effects of business transactions is, according to a recent audit by the <i>Corte dei conti</i>, an element that has a significant impact on the VAT Gap.</li> <li>• Reviewing and assessing methodologies and requirements to measure results of policies and actions aimed at fighting against VAT evasion/fraud.</li> <li>• Planning a specific meeting of Core Group 1 to discuss the issue with experts from tax administration.</li> <li>• Encouraging SAIs to plan parallel audits to evaluate methodologies adopted by Member States to estimate the hidden economy and tax evasion/fraud and to construct the national <i>relevé</i>.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Core group 2</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To further observe the evolution of an Anti-VAT Fraud Strategy at EU level.</li> <li>• To ensure an adequate and up-to-date reporting.</li> <li>• To monitor the development in the Member States regarding legislation, audit findings and new fraud trends.</li> <li>• To continue with the topic “risk management” by investigating risk management procedures during deregistration</li> <li>• To conduct a joint audit on Eurofisc and encourage SAIs to carry out other joint audits.</li> <li>• To make the Core Group Reports available on the restricted CIRCABC site and, where appropriate, communicate them to the relevant national administrations.</li> <li>• To present the findings at the next VAT Working Group meeting.</li> </ul>

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Joint Working Group on Audit Activities (JWGAA)</b>
Purpose/Mandate	<p>Originally a Candidate Countries Working Group set up to promote and facilitate small-scale, practical, hands-on co-operation between Candidate Country and EU Member State SAIs the (renamed) Joint Working Group on Audit Activities (JWGAA) was established in 2002.</p> <p>The 2004 Contact Committee confirmed the JWGAA as a key element of the post-May 2004 EU enlargement framework with a mandate to contribute to maintaining the working links and co-operation between the SAIs of the Contact Committee and the Presidents' Network (Acceding, Candidate and potential Candidate countries).</p> <p>JWGAA supports the Presidents' Network by providing professional, organisational and technical advice.</p>
Status/Outcome/ Results in 2013	<p><b>Annual Activity Report for the Contact Committee</b> on bilateral and multilateral audit activities</p> <p><b>Presentations at the EU and PN LOs Meetings</b></p> <p><b>JWGAA poster informing on key achievements since the last meeting</b></p> <p>For a full list of events and activities supported by the JWGAA since the last meeting see the <i>Activities</i> section below</p>
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	<p><a href="http://www.contactcommittee.eu">www.contactcommittee.eu</a></p> <p>CIRCABC</p>
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	<p><b>Final preparatory meeting for the <i>Seminar on performance auditing</i></b> organised by the European Commission with the support of the JWGAA for the Presidents' Network (March 2013, Bucharest, Romania). JWGAA co-chair (SAI Romania) prepared and attended the meeting.</p> <p><b>Meeting of the Liaison Officers of the Presidents' Network</b> (May 2013, Budapest, Hungary): JWGAA co-chairs attended the meeting.</p> <p><b>Seminar on <i>Performance Auditing – a Roadmap to Success</i></b> organised by the European Commission with the support of the JWGAA for the Presidents' Network (May 2013, Brussels, Belgium). JWGAA co-chair (SAI Romania) prepared and attended the seminar.</p> <p><b>Preparatory meeting for the <i>Conference on the importance of enhancing constructive relations between the Presidents' Network SAIs and parliaments</i></b> (June 2013, SIGMA HQ, Paris, France). JWGAA co-chair (SAI Romania) attended the meeting.</p> <p><b>Follow-up workshop on cooperation in performance auditing</b> organised by the European Commission with the support of the JWGAA for the Presidents' Network (September 2013, Tirana, Albania). JWGAA co-chair (SAI Romania) prepared and attended the workshop.</p>

WG/Network/TF members and observers	<p><u>Members</u>: All members of the Contact Committee and Presidents' Network, supported by SIGMA</p> <p><u>Observers</u>: N/A</p>
Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF	<p><u>Contact persons and co-chairs</u>:</p> <p>Mr Dragos Budulac, Romanian Court of Accounts, <a href="mailto:dragos.budulac@rcc.ro">dragos.budulac@rcc.ro</a></p> <p>Mr Martin Kolman, Czech Supreme Audit Office, <a href="mailto:martin.kolman@nku.cz">martin.kolman@nku.cz</a></p>
Activity Plan for 2014	<p><b>Facilitating CC support to specific Network meetings, conferences, seminars, workshops, projects or initiatives, in cooperation with SIGMA</b> (e.g. Conference on the importance of enhancing constructive relations between PN SAIs and parliaments, as well as other bodies of the public administration).</p> <p><b>Explore future possibilities of co-operation with European Commission</b> in organizing relevant joint activities in fields of interest for the NT SAIs (such as performance auditing) as a possible continuation of the previous events (Brussels, May 2013 and Tirana, September 2013).</p> <p><b>Report</b> to the 2014 Contact Committee and EU SAIs Liaison Officers as well as to the Presidents' Network Meeting and PN SAIs Liaison Officers Meeting.</p>

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Network on National SAI Reports on EU Financial Management</b>
Purpose/Mandate	The Network aims to exchange information on EU financial management and to discuss what can be done in and with (overall) EU reports in order to enhance the development of common elements in these reports (thereby enabling country comparisons). Ideally this could result in specific activities being undertaken by more or less independent subgroups of interested members. The Network uses its part on CIRCABC as its main platform for information exchange.
Status/Outcome/Results in 2013	The number of SAIs producing in 2013 overall reports on EU financial management is at a more or less constant level. Of the thirteen SAIs that in recent years have published an overall report, eight have done or will do so in 2013. This year, a group of SAIs led by the Czech SAI is continuing its discussion of information from the EU institutions which is indispensable for the development of (overall) EU reports and how this can be structured and made accessible to all EU SAIs. Another group of SAIs led by the Dutch SAI is discussing the possibilities of harmonizing and further developing the set-up of overall EU reports more. During the EU Trend Event held in The Hague on 6-7 December 2012 different stakeholders of overall EU reports called for more harmonisation of existing reports and bringing together more country comparative information. The discussion within the second group of SAIs will focus among other things on the points made by the stakeholders.
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	In contrast to 2012 - when two seminars were held under the auspices of the Network - no seminars on EU financial management have been planned in 2013.
WG/Network/TF members and observers	The activities of the Network are open to all EU SAIs. The following SAIs participate in the Network: Netherlands (chair), Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey and the European Court of Auditors. SAIs that have been involved in past activities are: Austria, France and the UK.
Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF	Contact person for the Network is Jan van den Bos – Netherlands Court of Audit (jmm.vandenbos@rekenkamer.nl) The rotating chairmanship of the Network is presently held by the Netherlands Court of Audit
Activity Plan for 2014	In 2014 the Network will continue updating its part of CIRCABC as platform for information exchange. Discussions within the two existing groups of interested SAIs will continue and the Network will facilitate other groups wishing to start up activities. The Network strives to find a SAI willing to organise a meeting / seminar in 2014.

EU Audit  
Activities of EU  
SAIs in 2013

	(1) National SAI overall report on EU finan. management	(2) Separate EU section in Annual Report of SAI	(3) Number and type of EU audits by SAI	(4) Type of EU audit reports by SAI	(5) Number of parallel/ coordinated audits
<b>Member States</b>					
Austria	P (10/2013)	X	1P, 1 Overall	SR, GR	1
Belgium	-	-	1P+Other	SR	-
Bulgaria	-	X	4C, 4P	SR	-
Croatia	-	-	-	SR, GR	-
Cyprus	A (12/2013)	X	21F, 3F+C, 1F+O, 4F+C+O	GR	-
Czech Republic	A (07/2013)	X	8C+P	SR, GR	1
Denmark	A (11/2013)	X	3P, 1 Overall, 2 Other	SR	2
Estonia	-	-	6P, 1 Other	SR	-
Finland	-	X	3F, 1P, 1 Other	GR	-
France	-	-	27C+P*	SR, GR, Auditee	-
Germany	P (1/2013)	-	1F, 3C, 1C+P, 1P	SR/Auditee	2
Greece	-	X	4F, 1C	GR	1
Hungary	-	-	1F, 4C, 1P	SR, GR	3
Ireland	-	-	10, 2C+P	SR	1
Italy	A (12/2013)	-	2F+C, 1F+P, 3F+C+P, 2C+O, 10	SR	-
Latvia	-	-	3F, 1C	SR, Auditee	-
Lithuania	-	X	2 Overall, 15 Other	SR, GR, Auditee	1
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	-	x	1P	SR	1
Netherlands	A (02/2013)	-	1F, 1P+C, 4 Other	SR	1
Poland	-	-	14F+C+P	SR, GR	7
Portugal	-	X	2C+P, 10 Other	SR, GR, Auditee	1
Romania	-	X	13F, 20F+C, 5F+Other, 1C, 28 Other	GR/AUDITEE	1
Slovak Republic	-	X	4F+C, 1F+C+P, 2C, 1C+P	SR, GR	-
Slovenia	o 07/2010) **	X	1C+P, 1P	SR, GR	1
Spain	-	X	1F+C	GR	-

	Sweden	-	-	1F, 1P	SR,GR	1
	United Kingdom	-	-	2F	SR	-
<b>Candidate Countries</b>						
	Iceland					
	former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	-	GR	-
	Montenegro					
	Serbia	-	-	-	-	-
	Turkey	-	-	4F	GR, Auditee	-
<p>* These audits we published in the period August 2012 until July 2013 by the French SAI and contain EU comparisons, although not all are directly EU related.</p> <p>** And annually (in September) an EU-funds financial flow overview as part of the national budget audit.</p> <p>Legend:</p> <p>1) A= Overall EU report published annually; o= Overall EU report published once; P= Overall EU report published periodically.</p> <p>3) F= Financial audit; C= Compliance audit; O= Operational audit; P= Performance audit; Overall= Overall EU report; Other= Other type of audit.</p> <p>4) SR= Results published in separate report; GR= Results integrated in more general report; Auditee= Results only made available to auditee.</p> <p>General: X= Yes; - = No; Blank= No information received (yet).</p>						

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Agricultural Experts Network</b>
Purpose/Mandate	The purpose of the network, since its creation at the initiative of Mr Bernicot, the former French Member of the Court, at the Contact Committee meeting of December 2004, has been an informal exchange of operational and professional information between Supreme Audit Institutions and the European Court of Auditors. Its aim is to involve in particular those colleagues dealing directly with the audit of agricultural funds of the European Union.
Status/Outcome/Results in 2013	<p>No new developments to report in 2013 apart from the transfer of the network on the new platform (CIRCABC).</p> <p>Invitation to access the network on the new platform was sent out by the ECA to all SAIs of EU-27. Only 5 SAIs responded, indicating 12 users to be admitted to the new network. Of these 12 users only 6 activated their account.</p> <p>This situation follows several years of very low activity, during which ECA was in practice the only party uploading any documents on the network.</p> <p>Given the very low level of interest for the operation of the network the question to address is whether to close it down.</p>
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	<p><b>CAP Information Network</b></p> <p><a href="https://circabc.europa.eu/faces/jsp/extension/wai/ecas/ecaslogin.jsp">https://circabc.europa.eu/faces/jsp/extension/wai/ecas/ecaslogin.jsp</a></p> <p>EUROPA &gt; European Commission &gt; CIRCABC &gt; eca &gt; cap</p>
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	No activities to report in 2013.
WG/Network/TF members and observers	Selected staff of the SAIs of Estonia, Germany, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ireland and selected staff of Chamber I of the ECA.
Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF	<p>Michal Machowski, ECA, <a href="mailto:michal.machowski@eca.europa.eu">michal.machowski@eca.europa.eu</a></p> <p><u>Chair</u>: Dean of Chamber I of the ECA.</p>
Activity Plan for 2014	Consult the SAIs as to whether to close down the network.

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Network on Fiscal Policy Audit</b>
Purpose/Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Fiscal Policy Audit Network was founded in 2008 (Contact Committee Resolution CC-R-2008-4), based on a joint activity proposal presented by the SAIs of Finland and Sweden. The CC Resolution CC-R-2009-03 further recognized the Network.</li> <li>• The purpose of the Network is : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– to improve methodologies and practices in auditing national fiscal policy, by making use of best practice and sharing of information between SAIs active in this subject area;</li> <li>– constitute a network of practitioners and sharing information with SAIs interested in the subject area.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The activities of the Network cover benchmarking (best practices, gathering data), information sharing and organising workshops and seminars to disseminate the available information on Fiscal Policy Audit related topics.</li> </ul>
Status/Outcome/Results in 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Network’s focus is on developing best practice and information exchange. The Network serves as a forum for fiscal policy audit professionals, with the aim to share methodological questions and know-how.</li> <li>• The annual seminars have served as a fruitful meeting-point for practitioners from different SAIs. The seminars have covered a range of themes, from discussing audit methodology to presenting various audit results or audit topics. The participation in seminars has been good.</li> <li>• In the context of the annual seminar in spring 2013 a proposal for the future guidelines of the Fiscal Policy Audit Network was sent to the participants by the chair in order to facilitate the discussion about the future activities of the network.</li> </ul>
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to the network extranet through the NAOF’s website: <a href="http://www.vtv.fi">www.vtv.fi</a></li> </ul>
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Network’s Fifth Annual Seminar was hosted by the Bundesrechnungshof in Potsdam, on the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> June 2013.</li> <li>• The main themes of the Fiscal Policy Audit Network Annual Seminar were Fiscal Compact and the Sustainability of Public Finances.</li> <li>• Through participants’ presentations, the seminar also covered the follow-up on the following themes: the recent developments in European economic governance, monitoring public deficit, national fiscal rules and fiscal frameworks, fiscal councils, the development of European accounting standards (EPSAS) and tax policy audit.</li> <li>• The two-day working seminar gathered participants from 16 EU SAIs and the European Court of Auditors.</li> </ul>

<p>WG/Network/TF members and observers</p>	<p>SAIs of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Sweden, France, Spain and the European Court of Auditors</p> <p>Representatives of the SAIs of Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Portugal, Turkey and the UK have participated in network meetings by giving presentations.</p>
<p>Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF</p>	<p><u>Contact person:</u> Dr. Heidi Silvennoinen, Director for Fiscal Policy Audit and Evaluation, National Audit Office Finland, mail <a href="mailto:heidi.silvennoinen@vtv.fi">heidi.silvennoinen@vtv.fi</a> and Ms. Lena Unemo, Audit Director, National Audit Office of Sweden, mail <a href="mailto:lena.unemo@riksrevisionen.se">lena.unemo@riksrevisionen.se</a></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Ms. Tytti Yli-Viikari, Deputy Auditor General of Finland, Fiscal Policy Audit &amp; Evaluation, mail <a href="mailto:tytti.yli-viikari@vtv.fi">tytti.yli-viikari@vtv.fi</a></p>
<p>Activity Plan for 2014</p>	<p>The network will continue to exchange information and improve methodologies and practices in auditing issues material to the overall situation of the public finances and material to fiscal policy and budgeting.</p> <p>The main themes and activities of the Network will be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-the sustainability of public finances;</li> <li>-the effectiveness of tax policy;</li> <li>-the implementation of the European economic regulation (Fiscal compact) and SAI activities linked to the audit of their national implementation.</li> </ul> <p>A Fiscal Policy Audit Network seminar would take place in spring 2014 in order to discuss these themes and continue the information-sharing and methodological information dissemination.</p> <p>Specific rapporteurs would present summaries of the developments in the sector of European new regulations in the 2014 Annual Seminar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Banking Union: rapporteur SAI Germany</li> <li>-European Economic Governance: rapporteur SAI Austria</li> </ul> <p>Moreover, the Chair proposes that the Network carries out in 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-a mapping exercise on the national implementation of European economic regulation (Fiscal Compact)</li> <li>-based on the mapping exercise, determine a possible parallel audit topic for a parallel audit to be started in 2015.</li> </ul> <p>The results of the mapping exercise and the possible parallel audit topic would be presented at the 2014 Contact Committee.</p> <p>For further details see the full version of the Status Outline report distributed during the Contact Committee 2013 as a background document: "EU SAIs Network on Fiscal Policy Audit: status outline for Contact Committee meeting 2013".</p> <p>Network is looking for interested SAIs to organise a seminar in 2014.</p>

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Network on Lisbon Strategy / Europe 2020 Strategy Audit</b>
Purpose/Mandate	CC Resolution: CC-R-2012-XX: to be an important forum for sharing experience and knowledge in the audit of Europe 2020 Strategy related topics and a useful tool in the articulation of the activity of SAIs.
Status/Outcome/Results in 2013	Workshop held in Potsdam on 14th June 2013 in order to share professional views and experiences among SAIs concerning on-going, completed or planned audits of Europe 2020 Strategy and related topics.  The conclusions of the workshop will be reported by the Presidency of the Network to the Contact Committee in October 2013.
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	CIRCABC
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop held in Potsdam on 14th June 2013.</li> <li>• Boost CIRCABC Website in order to include documents related with themes regarding the Europe 2020 Strategy.</li> </ul>
WG/Network/TF members and observers	Network members:  SAIs of Portugal, Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Slovenia, Sweden and the Netherlands. ECA.
Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF	Portuguese Court of Auditors  The Chairman of the Network: José Luis Pinto Almeida (Member of the Court)
Activity Plan for 2014	The Europe 2020 Strategy Audit Network Chair proposes continuing the Network activities in 2014 in order to strengthen SAIs best practice cooperation on control measures for the implementation of the national guidelines connected with Europe 2020 Strategy.  These activities will cover namely:  - The invitation to SAIs having performed audit works in the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy to share their results;  - The promotion of the CIRCABC Website as an important tool to have an operational network, ready to accept documents from interested SAIs and to motivate all SAIs to interact with the Network. Through this website SAIs can disclose the activities plans, the on-going work and the reports.  - The realization of an eventual workshop in articulation and collaboration with the Network on Fiscal Policy Audit, as the workshops held in Paris (2012) and Potsdam (2013).

Name of WG/Network/TF	<b>Task force on the tasks and roles of the external public audit in the light of recent developments in the European Union economic governance</b>
Purpose/Mandate	In 2012 the Contact Committee (CC) mandated the Task Force (TF) to consider and report back on the tasks and roles of SAIs in respect of recent developments in the EU. In addition to addressing substantive matters the TF was asked to examine the prerequisites for an effective fulfilment of these tasks and the requirements for independence, effectiveness and credibility of SAIs. The aim is to be able to contribute most appropriately and effectively to future legislative processes, possibly in a consultative way, building on the strengths and experience of the CC and its member organisations.
Status/Outcome/ Results in 2013	Position paper outlining ideas of what issues should be addressed by the CC and making proposals on how the CC could operate more effectively developed and presented to the Heads of EU SAIs.
Links to relevant WG/Network/TF reports/documents	<a href="http://www.contactcommittee.eu">http://www.contactcommittee.eu</a>  CIRCABC
Activities this year (meetings etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TF Survey</b> The survey was conducted among the TF members to identify ideas on the key recent developments in the EU economic governance to be addressed by the CC and possible revision of the CC governance.</li> <li>• <b>1<sup>st</sup> TF meeting in January in Tallinn</b> At its first meeting in Tallinn in January 2013 the TF discussed the results of the survey and established two temporary working groups to analyse the issues in question – CC governance issues (WG 1) and recent developments in EU governance (WG 2).</li> <li>• <b>2<sup>nd</sup> TF meeting in March in Vienna</b> The reports produced by the working groups and the draft position paper were discussed and finalised at the second meeting of the TF in Vienna in March 2013.</li> <li>• <b>Presentation of position paper in Extraordinary CC meeting in May in Luxembourg</b> The TF presented its position paper for preliminary exchange of views at the Extraordinary meeting of the CC in May 2013 in Luxembourg.</li> <li>• <b>Decisions on next steps on position paper will be taken in regular CC meeting in October in Vilnius</b></li> </ul>
WG/Network/TF members and observers	<u>TF Members:</u> SAIs of Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania (chair), Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden and United Kingdom, and ECA  <u>WG 1 members:</u> SAIs of Lithuania (chair), Poland and Portugal, and ECA  <u>WG 2 members:</u> SAIs of Austria, Germany, France, Finland, Netherlands

	(chair) and Sweden, and ECA
Name of contact person/chair of WG/Network/TF	<p><u>Chair:</u> Giedrė Švedienė, Auditor General, SAI of Lithuania (giedre.svediene@vkontrole.lt)</p> <p><u>Contact person:</u> Aldona Puteikienė, liaison officer, SAI of Lithuania, (aldona.puteikiene@vkontrole.lt)</p>
Activity Plan for 2014	With the position paper and draft CC 2013 resolutions the TF completed the task assigned.