

20th UN/INTOSAI Symposium

In cooperation with the United Nations the INTOSAI General Secretariat organized the 20th UN/INTOSAI Symposium 'INTOSAI – Active partner in the international anti-corruption network; Ensuring transparency to promote social security and poverty reduction'. It was held in the Vienna International Centre from 11 to 13 February, 2009.

With almost 170 participants from 68 different SAIs (40 of them heads of SAIs) and 8 different international organizations and institutions (IIA, Interpol, GTZ, OECD, OLAF, UNODC, UNDESA, World Bank) it was the most successful UN/INTOSAI Symposium in the more than 40 years history of these events.

The participants and lecturers agreed that SAIs were uniquely positioned to fight corruption due to their overview of all government operations. They stressed the importance of independence, adequate training and public reporting of SAIs in this regard. They stated that INTOSAI considered it its main task to increase transparency, promote good governance, guarantee accountability, fight corruption and strengthen public confidence in government institutions and their work. They noted that INTOSAI must lead by example in the fight against corruption and was fulfilling its responsibility to ensure transparency and prevention through a host of activities and measures.

The 20th UN/INTOSAI Symposium adopted with a vast majority [Conclusions and Recommendations](#). The 13 concrete recommendations culminate in the conviction that the Declarations of Lima and of Mexico should be integrated in the body of law governing the international community of nations through a pertinent UN Resolution, as these texts protect the independence of SAIs in functional, organisational and staffing terms that is required for effective government audit to enable SAIs for an effective fight against corruption, fraud and mismanagement.