

Commission on Audit Hosts ASOSAI Sponsored Workshop on Dealing with Fraud and Corruption

The Commission on Audit (COA), the Philippines' Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), hosted an international workshop on dealing with fraud and corruption sponsored by the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI).

The five-day workshop focused on understanding fraud and corruption, roles and responsibilities of management, assessing and detecting fraud and corruption, responding to the results of the detection, further examination for predication, and reporting and follow-up of actions.

COA Chairperson Ma. Gracia M. Pulido Tan gave a warm welcome to the 35 participants, as well as instructors, expert and officers from the different member SAIs at the opening ceremony held at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel on November 12, 2012.

"We are very happy to be hosting this and we are even happier to note that the topic for this workshop in particular is something that is very close to the audit focus of the Philippine SAI," Chairperson Pulido Tan said.

Chairperson Pulido Tan noted that in the Philippines corruption is among the utmost concern that is being addressed by the present administration. As such, it is getting all the attention, resources and focus it deserves.

She also observed that for every SAI in the world, corruption is one of the audit focus by the very nature of the mandate of any SAI which is to be the watchdog of the treasury of the country and to ensure that the money is spent wisely and prudently for the benefit of the majority of the people.

The rich pool of instructors came from different member SAIs: Ms. Farmeen Mowla and Mr. Bikash Chandra Mitra of Bangladesh, Mr. Penjor of Bhutan, Ms. Naing Thet Oo of Myanmar, Ms. Namana Gulrukh Fareed of Pakistan, and Mr. Richard Fulleros of the Philippines. They are joined by Mr. Randy Rizki, Subject Matter Expert from Indonesia. Director Melanie R. Añonuevo of COA's Professional Development Sector (PDS) is the Course Director while Ms. Megumi Ino of the Board of Audit of Japan is the Training Administrator.

Ms. Ino expressed appreciation to the COA and thanked Chairperson Pulido Tan and all the COA officials for hosting the workshop in Manila.

She said the workshop is a wonderful experience to learn together. "I believe the more you expand the way of your communication the stronger the tie of ASOSAI will be further enhanced," she added.

Also in attendance at the opening ceremony were Assistant Commissioner Winnie Rose H. Encallado and Director Leila S. Paras of the PDS.

The closing ceremony was held at Wack-Wack Country Club in Mandaluyong City on November 17, 2012.