



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THIRTY-FOURTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Twentieth Report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC)

San Jose, Costa Rica
21-22 May 2014

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE

The Audit Review Committee (ARC) was established in September 1993 by Resolution 231 of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA).

MANDATE

Pursuant to the Statute of the Audit Review Committee, the only reporting requirement of the Committee is to report to both the Executive Committee and the Inter-American Board of Agriculture anything that, in the judgment of the Audit Review Committee, may constitute a violation of the rules and procedures governing the operations of the General Directorate.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The present members of the Committee are:

1. Pamela D.M. Monroe Ellis, Auditor General, Auditor General's Department, Jamaica.
2. Lina Ma. Tejera Jurado, National Director, Administration and Finance, Ministry of Agricultural Development, Panama.
3. Steve Rickrode, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Office of Inspector General, United States Department of Agriculture, U.S.A.

ACTIVITIES OF THE AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Committee met at IICA Headquarters, in Coronado, Costa Rica, on April 2-3, 2014, with the purpose of conducting the annual review of the financial statements for the year that ended in December 2013.

Discussions were held with the Director General as well as the following management personnel of IICA:

Carlos O'Farrill	- Secretary of Corporate Services
Karen Kleinheinz	- Director of Financial Management
Grettel Loría	- Accounting Chief
Yensy Casanova	- Coordinator of Consolidation Unit, Finance
Rocío Bohórquez	- Internal Auditor
Jorge Sánchez	- Internal Audit Specialist
Oswaldo Solano	- Specialist, Information, Technology and Communications Unit

The Committee reviewed the draft report of the external auditors, Ernst & Young S. A. and held discussions with the audit partner, Mr. Juan José Guzmán, and the audit manager, Ms. Virginia Sánchez.

Based on these discussions, the Committee found that the work performed by the external auditors complies with international auditing standards and IICA’s rules. The external auditor reported no internal control issues; except for the matter pertaining to the valuation of termination benefits. This matter is addressed below.

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF IICA

Audit Opinion

The ARC reviewed and considered the basis of the external auditor's qualified opinion with respect to the absence of actuarial studies for termination benefits in the amount of US\$18.4M, as required by USGAAP. The ARC understands and accepts the external auditor's position. However, we believe it is important that the readers of the financial statements are aware that US\$8.5M (46.1%) of the termination obligation was in fact subjected to actuarial review. This actuarial study conforms to the norms and labor laws of the relevant country. The 2012 audit opinion was qualified due to a similar issue.

AIS Program in Colombia

The ARC reviewed the note to the financial statements for December 31, 2013 and 2012 in relation to the AIS program in Colombia. We are cognizant of the complex nature of this outstanding matter and IICA's ongoing resolution efforts; as well as, the related reviews and potential legal claims. The ARC is of the view that IICA has considered the risk associated with the issue and is addressing it appropriately. The Committee recommends that IICA continue to monitor the situation.

Quota

IICA continues to monitor payment of quotas.

We are making no new recommendations.

Prepared by:

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