

The National Coordination Body of the Audit
Authorities of the Italian Republic
&
The European Commission

31st ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN
AUDITORS OF COHESION POLICY FUNDS
“THE HOMOLOGUES GROUP”

Rome, 7 – 8 October 2024

Location and Accommodation

Meeting and accommodation: Sheraton Rome Parco de' Medici

Monday, 7 October 2024

Presidency by **Mr Paolo Zambuto**, Head of National Coordination Body of the Audit Authorities, in the State General Accounting Department - General Inspectorate for Financial Relations with the European Union – IGRUE, Italy, and **Mr Franck Sébert**, Director, Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

08:30 - 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 - 09:30 **Welcome speech(es) by the host country:**

Mr Giancarlo Giorgetti, Minister of Economy and Finance,
Ms Daria Perrotta, State Accountant General

09:30 - 10:00 **Video message by Mr Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for Budget and Administration**

10:00 - 10:45 **New horizons for the European Commission audit work in 2021-2027 and beyond**

Presentation by **Mr Franck Sébert**, Director, Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion

10:45 - 11:15 **Coffee break**

WORKSHOPS 11:15- 12:45

Workshop 1 - Audit activities towards the successful closure of operational programmes 2014 - 2020. Experience from audits on preparedness for closure.

Workshop 2 - Enhanced detection capacity for Audit Authorities - audits of operations. Lessons learnt.

Workshop 3 - Results from early preventive system audits (EPSA) for 2021-2027 programmes.

12:45 - 14:45 **Lunch**

WORKSHOPS 14:45- 16:15

Workshop 1 - Audit activities towards the successful closure of operational programmes 2014 - 2020. Experience from audits on preparedness for closure.

Workshop 2 - Enhanced detection capacity for Audit Authorities - audits of operations. Lessons learnt.

Workshop 4 - System findings identified in the work of Audit Authorities. Preventive actions to take for 2021-2027.

17:30 **Transfer to the group photo and the Gala dinner**

Tuesday, 8 October 2024

Presidency by **Mr Paolo Zambuto**, Head of National Coordination Body of the Audit Authorities, Chief Inspector General in Ministry of Economy and Finance - State General Accounting Department - General Inspectorate for Financial Relations with the European Union – IGRUE, Italy, and **Mr Franck Sébert**, Director, Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

08:30 - 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 - 10:30 **Workshops take aways**

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 - 11:45 **Protecting the EU budget: challenges and developments**

Presentation by Mr James Sweeney, Director OLAF, European Commission

11:45 - 12:30 **Perspective on the future approach for the ECA's statement of assurance**

Presentation by Mr Jan Gregor, Member of the European Court of Auditors

12:30 - 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 - 15:30 **Presentation of the 9th Cohesion Report and the related communication**

Presentation by Mr Peter Berkowitz, Director DG REGIO and Ms Ruth Paserman, Director DG EMPL, European Commission

15:30 - 15:45 **Organisation of the next Homologues Group Meeting**

15:45 - 16:00 **Closure of the meeting**

19:00 **Closing dinner**

Useful reading:

[Inforegio - Ninth Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion \(europa.eu\)](#)

[Cohesion for a competitive and inclusive Europe : report of the High-Level Group on the Future of Cohesion Policy, February 2024](#)

[Review 03/2024: An overview of the assurance framework and the key factors contributing to errors in 2014-2020 cohesion spending](#)

The conference is organised by the National Coordination Body of the Audit Authorities, Ministry of Economy and Finance - State General Accounting Department - General Inspectorate for Financial Relations with the European Union- IGRUE, of Italian Republic and has been granted co-funding from the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund by the European Commission.