



2023 Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of the Americas – Twenty-second
Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA)

**Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Reports of the Audit
Review Committee (ARC)**

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San Jose, Costa Rica
3-5 October 2023

TWENTY-NINTH 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 Audit Review 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 AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The present members of the ARC are:

- Mitzila Samudio, National Director of Administration and Finance, Ministry of Agricultural Development, Panama
- Sr. Fernando Magalhães Soares Pinto, Undersecretary for Budget, Planning and Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, Brazil
- Yvonne James, Director of Audit, Office of the Director of Audit, Saint Lucia

ACTIVITIES OF THE AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The ARC met on June 6, 2023, with the purpose of conducting the annual review of the Financial Statements for the year that ended December 31, 2022.

Discussions were held with the following management and administrative personnel of IICA:

- Manuel Otero, Director General
- Lloyd Day, Deputy Director General
- Braulio Heinze, Director of Corporate Services
- Karen Kleinheinz, Financial Manager
- Grettel Loría, Accounting Chief, Financial Management
- Yensy Casanova, Coordinator of the Consolidation Unit, Financial Management
- Jorge Sánchez, Internal Auditor, a.i.
- Emmanuel Picado, Manager of Information and Communication Technologies Unit and Digital Agriculture

The ARC reviewed the draft report of the external auditor, Deloitte, and held discussions with the Audit Partner, Jorge Barboza and the Audit Manager, Kelly Preciado.

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF IICA

Based on these discussions, the ARC found that the work performed by the external auditors complies with International Auditing Standards and IICA's rules. The external auditors opined IICA's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of IICA as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. The ARC accepts the external auditors' opinion and related report. We commend IICA for its 2022 audit results and the achievement of an unmodified audit opinion for five consecutive years.

Quotas Receivable

The ARC acknowledges the receipt of accounts due from Member States' during 2022 and recommends strengthening such efforts in 2023. We would like to highlight the fact that quotas received from Member States allow IICA to fulfill its mission to encourage, promote and support Member States in their efforts to achieve agricultural development.

In light of this, the ARC encourages IICA to pursue timely collection of quotas receivable.

Follow-up actions regarding previous external audit findings

Based on the information presented by the external auditors, we noted that the Administration of IICA has attended to their administrative, financial and information technology recommendations.

Modernization of policies and procedures

The ARC supports IICA's efforts to update and modernize its policies and procedures, especially in the areas of internal audit, human resources, and financial administration.

We are making no additional recommendations.

Prepared by:

Mitzila Samudio
Panama

Fernando Magalhães Soares Pinto
Brazil

Yvonne James
Saint Lucia

TWENTY-EIGHTH 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 Audit Review 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 AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The present members of the ARC are:

- Mitzila Samudio, National Director of Administration and Finance, Ministry of Agricultural Development, Panama
- Gustavo Pereira da Silva Filho, Director of Governance and Management of the Executive Secretariat of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, Brazil
- Yvonne James, Director of Audit, Office of the Director of Audit, Saint Lucia

ACTIVITIES OF THE AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The ARC met on 08 June and 13 June, 2022, with the purpose of conducting the annual review of the Financial Statements for the year that ended December 31, 2021.

Discussions were held with the following management and administrative personnel of IICA:

- Manuel Otero, Director General
- Lloyd Day, Deputy Director General
- Braulio Heinze, Director of Corporate Services
- Karen Kleinheinz, Financial Manager
- Grettel Loría, Accounting Chief, Financial Management
- Yensy Casanova, Coordinator of the Consolidation Unit, Financial Management
- Jorge Sánchez, Internal Auditor, a.i.
- Emmanuel Picado, Manager of Information and Communication Technologies Unit and Digital Agriculture

The ARC reviewed the draft report of the external auditor, Deloitte, and held discussions with the Audit Partner, Jorge Barboza, the Audit Manager, Kelly Preciado and the IT Partner, Mauricio Solano.

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF IICA

Based on these discussions, the ARC found that the work performed by the external auditors complies with International Auditing Standards and IICA's rules. The external auditors opined IICA's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of IICA as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. The ARC accepts the external auditors' opinion and related report. We recognize the work done by IICA and commend IICA for its 2021 audit results and the achievement of an unmodified audit opinion for four consecutive years.

Quotas Receivable

The ARC acknowledges the difficult economic situation that countries are experiencing as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we would like to highlight the fact that quotas received from Member States allow IICA to fulfill its mission to encourage, promote and support Member States in their efforts to achieve agricultural development.

In light of this, the ARC encourages IICA to pursue timely collection of quotas receivables.

Response to COVID-19

The ARC recommends that IICA continue its cost saving initiatives to safeguard its financial position.

We are making no additional recommendations.

Prepared by:

Mitzila Samudio
Panama

Gustavo Pereira da Silva Filho
Brazil

Yvonne James
Saint Lucia