

IIA Global Council Meeting
May 9 – 10, 2009
Johannesburg, South Africa

The 6th Annual Global Council was held in Johannesburg. 120 delegates from 70 institutes around the world gathered to discuss and provide inputs on the strategy for the global organization, as well as the strategy for the profession and what we want our stakeholders to expect from internal auditing.

Over the two days, there was lively discussion and interaction amongst the attendees in the Blue and Green Rooms of the Sandton Convention Centre.

The Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 has one overarching goal i.e. *“By 2013, internal auditing will be universally recognized as a profession”*. To achieve this, The IIA and its Institutes around the world must work together in (1) defining the profession of internal auditing, (2) ensuring quality performance, and (3) providing internal auditors with the training and tools to increase their professional knowledge and skills. The Draft Value Proposition for internal auditing’s stakeholders put up by the Professionalism Task Force was discussed and debated on by attendees also in the light of assessing the extent to which the profession currently meets the 13 identified elements that define a profession. These elements included the Body of Knowledge, Education and Continuing Professional Education, Certification, Research and Development, Public Recognition, Standards etc.

The IIA is at a crossroads in terms of its evolution to a seamless global organization, as envisioned by Milestone 5 of the 2008-2013 IIA Strategic Plan. Milestone 5 states that *“IIA Global will be seen by its members and operate as one global organization”*. Attendees discussed the proposals outlined by the Global Governance Task Force on three key areas namely, Governance, Service Delivery and Funding. The proposals outlined a future organizational and operational strategy that will meet the needs of a complex, global professional organization.

For each of the key areas, attendees discussed and provided inputs on the principles and the proposed direction. Summing up the discussions, there was general agreement with the principles outlined for service delivery and funding. And given uncertainty in interpretation of some principles, there was no complete agreement on the governance framework.

Areas to be addressed on service delivery included need to clarify the mission of IIA Global, Institutes and IIA Global must each meet responsibilities and accountability, implications of execution such as sufficiency of capacity and resources locally and globally. On funding, there was significant concern with potential size of dues increase to Institutes and ability to pay. Questions were raised on the proposed governance framework such as the proposed global congress composition and voting, the role of the annual meeting and member vote etc.

Besides the mainstream agenda discussion, two other sessions namely CBOK 2010 Practitioners Survey and Public Sector Internal Audit Capability Maturity Model, were also convened.

Overall, as a global team, attendees actively participated and there was lively and good exchange of views on issues concerning the profession.



Above: Peck Leng with Institute reps from Germany, Australia, Malaysia and Canada.