



International Advisory Group (IAG)

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WHAT IS IAG? AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

In 2001, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, Canada (OSFI) created the International Advisory Group (IAG) to assist selected emerging market economies in enhancing their supervisory system. Our commitment represents a practical and effective means of contributing to international financial stability.

IAG provides technical assistance (at no cost), primarily to supervisors in the Caribbean, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Africa in the areas of bank and insurance company supervision and regulation. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provides funding for IAG, however, for jurisdictions that do not qualify for CIDA assistance, IAG operates on a non-profit (cost-recovery) fee for service basis. We would invite you to contact us should you have a question on eligibility.

IAG conducts needs assessments and provides hands-on technical advice, training, workshops and seminars. IAG programs are tailored to the needs and requirements of the “client”. Where possible, programs are delivered on a regional basis, in partnership with other technical assistance organizations, such as: Financial Stability Institute (FSI); Toronto International Leadership Centre for Financial Sector Supervision (Toronto Centre); International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS); Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC); South East Asian Central Banks Research and Training Centre (SEACEN); and Association of Supervisors of Banks of the Americas (ASBA). IAG also works with a number of regional associations and groups in the design and delivery of technical assistance programs for their member regulators.

IAG is pleased to partner with the Toronto Centre in offering a unique training opportunity which combines leadership and technical training. This program is offered at the Toronto Centre in Toronto, Canada. For more information on this program, please visit our website at www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca or contact Ms. Lesley Schiff, the Toronto Centre’s Program Manager at 1-416-943-9300, ext. 222 or lschiff@torontocentre.org.

In addition to the joint programs and hosting foreign supervisors for short periods, IAG offers a variety of regional training and technical assistance in various locations outside of Canada which extend beyond the typical classroom setting and encompasses all facets of regulation and supervision. The training is developed according to the needs of the specific jurisdiction with IAG providing hands on technical advice, consulting services and follow-up at no cost to the jurisdiction.

IAG is staffed by individuals with extensive experience in banking and insurance company supervision gained at OSFI and with other regulatory authorities. IAG is also keenly aware of global supervisory standards having partnered with various standard setters and participated as Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) expert assessors. The major benefit of our technical assistance is that it is provided by current supervisors who work with, and are well versed in, “today’s” techniques and methodologies.



Mr. **KIM NORRIS**, Managing Director, International Advisory Group

Mr. Norris joined OSFI in 1984 and has a total of 29 years of diverse financial institution regulatory and deposit insurance experience having served at both the provincial and federal levels. Prior to joining the government, he worked in a management position for a major Canadian bank.



Mr. **JEAN SARAZIN**, Director, International Advisory Group

Mr. Sarazin, a Chartered Accountant, joined OSFI in 1982 as a financial analyst and has significant experience in the supervision of both life and non-life insurers. He has also been involved in the harmonization of financial filing requirements, the introduction of reinsurance regulations and the development of capital tests for general insurance companies.



Mr. **JAMES BRUCE**, Director, International Advisory Group

Mr. Bruce joined OSFI in 1990. Throughout his career with OSFI, Mr. Bruce has been involved in the assessment and analysis of requests for licensing of regulated financial institutions and has played a role in cross sector projects that resulted in the issuance of key OSFI guidelines.



Mr. **RALPH LEWARS**, Senior Advisor, International Advisory Group

Prior to joining OSFI in 2000, Mr. Lewars was a Director at the Jamaica Deposit Insurance Corporation, having been a member of the Financial Sector Task Force that recommended its establishment. Prior to that, he was an Assistant Director at the Bank of Jamaica, where he worked as an Economist for 12 years.



Ms. **JANET DUBEAU**, Project Coordinator, International Advisory Group

Ms. Dubeau has worked with OSFI for 12 years and has significant experience in the organization of conferences and seminars.



Ms. **TAMMY KREIGER**, Acting Project Coordinator, International Advisory Group

Ms. Kreiger joined the IAG team in October 2006. Prior to that, she worked as an Administrative Assistant in the Superintendent's Office at OSFI for 5 years. She is the primary point of contact for the division.

If you would like to know more about IAG or our technical assistance program, please contact Tammy Kreiger at (613) 990-2504 or email iag@osfi-bsif.gc.ca

Testimonials

“The interactive nature of the seminar allowed for full participation, enriching the learning process”

“I am not exaggerating if I say that we were one before you came and a different one after you left”

“Well organized and presented in appropriate detail”

“Appreciated that questions/discussions were encouraged and not rushed”

“Very useful course-knowledgeable and pragmatic instructors”

“Presenters are knowledgeable and experienced”

“A great academic and technical experience”

“Unique opportunity to learn”

“The facilitators were excellent and the presentations brilliant”

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