PASAI Provides One-Week Support to ONPA on the System of Audit Quality Management (SoAQM) and Financial Audit Review

The Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) welcomed Gerhard van den Berg, Senior Advisor - International Engagement, and Stuart Cormack, Manager Methodology, from New Zealand's Audit Office from November 9 to 13, 2026, for a week of technical support and collaboration under the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) initiative on the System of Audit Quality Management (SoAQM).

The visit was aimed at supporting ONPA's ongoing efforts to design and develop its System of Audit Quality Management. Working closely with ONPA staff, the visiting team reviewed the Office's proposed quality management framework, assessed identified quality risks, and discussed practical measures to strengthen the design of the system and support its establishment.

Throughout the week, Gerhard van den Berg and Stuart Cormack worked alongside Rosadelima Alfons, Quality Assurance Officer, and Selai Managreve, Audit Manager. Together, they reviewed ONPA's quality risk assessment, refined proposed responses to identified quality risks, and further developed action plans to support the establishment of the SoAQM. They also reviewed ONPA's draft SoAQM policy and assisted in developing supporting policies and procedures that will form part of the overall quality management system.

In addition to providing support on the SoAQM, the visiting representatives reviewed selected financial audits conducted by ONPA. Their observations and feedback provided valuable insights into current audit practices and highlighted opportunities to further strengthen audit quality and compliance with professional auditing standards.

The engagement also provided an important opportunity for knowledge sharing and professional collaboration. Through discussions and the exchange of experiences, ONPA staff gained practical insights into quality management principles and key considerations for designing and operating an effective quality management system within the Office.

ONPA greatly appreciates the time, commitment, and expertise shared by Gerhard van den Berg and Stuart Cormack throughout the visit. Their willingness to work directly with staff and share their knowledge provided meaningful support to the Office's efforts to establish an effective quality management system.

The development of the SoAQM remains a key priority for ONPA. The system will provide a structured framework for promoting audit quality and supporting continuous improvement across the Office. Once established, it will require ongoing monitoring and periodic review to ensure it continues to operate effectively and achieves its intended objectives.

ONPA also extends its sincere appreciation to PASAI for facilitating this important initiative and to the Office of the Auditor-General of New Zealand for its continued support in strengthening audit capacity and promoting professional development among Supreme Audit Institutions across the Pacific region.

