THE IIA CALLS ON THE G20 TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONAL GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

The Institute of Internal Auditors commends the Group of Twenty for its successful summit hosted by Saudi Arabia and for its commitment to economic stability, global collaboration, inclusivity, and trust.

Trust is instrumental to public confidence in the decisions and actions of leaders in all sectors, particularly during crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic. To build trust, appropriate structures and procedures must be in place to ensure integrity, accountability, and transparency within organizations. This is achievable only through effective governance.

The Institute of Internal Auditors urges the G20 to reinforce the basic elements of governance as described in the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Regardless of industry, government, or size of an organization, governance can function successfully only if it has as a minimum:

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability, by a governing body to stakeholders, achieved through transparent oversight, integrity, and leadership. Governing bodies must ensure disclosures are accurate, timely, reliable, comprehensive, and in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements, and ethical norms.

ACTION

Reliable and well-informed action by management, including risk-based decisionmaking and judicious application of resources. This is critical to achieving the objectives of an organization. Management must provide direction and ensure analysis, planning, monitoring, risk oversight, and reporting back to the governing body.

ASSURANCE

Independent and objective assurance and advice, which is crucial to clarity and confidence, and to promoting continuous improvement through rigorous inquiry and insightful communication. This is achieved through a fully resourced independent internal audit function that operates in accordance with international standards.

The IIA proposes that the G20 recognize these vital roles and embed them as fundamental components of the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. To that end, we recommend using the updated Three Lines Model, which provides a strong foundation for securing organizational preparedness, resilience, and agility in times of great change and uncertainty.



The IIA, a global association representing internal audit professionals in 200 countries and territories, including those of all the G20 members, stands ready to join with the G20 to empower organizational governance and risk management now and into the future.

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