

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 2022

Remaining Resilient In An Endemic Environment

One thing has held true during this pandemic - volatility in the business environment continues and it comes with new risks, even as we move to co-exist with Covid-19 as an endemic disease. Organisations are facing a myriad of risks ranging from severe supply chain disruptions to climate change to inflationary pressures. Just as evolving risk has expanded the profession's scope of audit beyond compliance and operational to cyber risk, so too will it be extended to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) following SGX RegCo's announcement on 15 December 2021, which subjects listed companies' sustainability reporting processes to internal review. The response to our webinar on Sustainability Auditing on 14 April 2022 has been overwhelmingly positive. Owing to this, we may have to do a second run on Sustainability Auditing! In addition, the Institute will be rolling out a series of sustainability activities from awareness to guidance to training courses that will equip internal auditors with the skills and knowledge to support their organisations' ESG efforts. More details will be announced in due course.

With the increasing expectations on internal audit, we urge internal auditors to earn the IIA's Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), the hallmark designation for internal auditors to communicate knowledge, skills, and competencies to effectively carry out professional responsibilities. Professional accountants holding qualifications from one of the qualified accounting bodies (QABs) can take advantage of the opportunity to take the CIA Challenge Exam, an expedited pathway to earn the designation. The exam will be available for application in June 2022. QABs recognised include ACCA, CPA Australia, CA ANZ, ICAEW and ISCA The full list of QABs can be accessed here.

In a fast-moving world, we know that we have to support our members and the profession through the changes. Our number one priority remains providing you with the relevant professional development support to acquire new skills and credentials to help you navigate the complex business environment and be prepared for the future economy. The upcoming in-person Public Sector Internal Audit Conference on 21 April 2022 has received a good response in terms of the registration numbers. We are extremely grateful for members' support. Without you, this wouldn't be possible.

As the annual membership renewal date approaches in April, we ask for your continued support to be your professional development partner at every stage of your career. You can renew your membership <u>here.</u>

We are all consciously navigating through these challenging times as best as we can and we need to work in partnership with members and stakeholders to drive value together for the Institute. With a focus on resilience, internal audit has the ability to manage an ever-changing environment.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Christians a blessed Good Friday and a happy Easter weekend ahead.

Yours sincerely

Koh Chin Beng, *CIA*President
The Institute of Internal Auditors Singapore