NAIC AND STATE INSURANCE REGULATORS
COMPLETE THE U.S. FSAP

General High Level of Observance of International Standards Noted

The U.S. financial regulatory system, including insurance, was reviewed as part of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP). The IMF found a general high level of observance by U.S. insurance regulators with international insurance standards and overall resilience of the insurance sector through the financial crisis.

The state insurance regulatory system was assessed against 28 International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) Insurance Core Principles (ICP), and was found to observe or largely observe 25 of the international standards. State insurance regulators and the NAIC are reviewing the FSAP results to develop a response including, where appropriate, incorporating its recommendations into the NAIC’s ongoing process to improve the U.S. insurance regulatory system.

Established in 1999 in response to the Asian financial crisis, the FSAP is a joint IMF and World Bank program providing a comprehensive and in-depth analysis of a country’s financial regulatory sector. To date, more than three-quarters of IMF member countries have undergone an FSAP; however, 2009-2010 is the first year that the U.S. (including the NAIC and state regulators representing the insurance sector) has participated.

As part of this FSAP process, the NAIC completed a Self-Assessment, evaluating the extent to which U.S. insurance regulatory practices are in observance of the IAIS Insurance Core Principles (ICPs).

After the NAIC completed the Self-Assessment, the IMF conducted two rounds of field visits to the NAIC and four state insurance departments (Iowa, New York, West Virginia and Illinois) to conduct an in-depth review of U.S. regulatory practices. The IMF assessors also met with several industry trade associations and with officials from the U.S. Treasury Department during these field visits.

Based on this comprehensive review process, the IMF assessors finalized a Detailed Assessment Report (DAR) which rates U.S. observance of each of the 28 ICPs according to the IAIS scale (O-Observed, L-Largely Observed, PO-Partly Observed), and provides recommendations for regulatory reform and enhancements relating to certain ICPs.

The final output of the FSAP - the Financial System Stability Assessments (FSSA) - was published July 30th, and focused primarily on short-term system stability, macroprudential issues and observance of standards and codes.

The NAIC and state regulators have committed to reviewing the recommendations related to the insurance sector that were made during this FSAP process and has assigned each recommendation to a relevant NAIC committee, task force or working group to review and take into account in their respective work plans.
The FSAP process has provided insurance regulators in the United States with a timely opportunity to undertake a comprehensive self-assessment of the U.S. insurance regulatory system against international standards, and has contributed to and will continue to contribute to ongoing internal reviews and assessments of regulatory practices. The FSAP has also served as a useful platform for providing an overview to the world of the U.S. insurance regulatory system and its unique multi-jurisdictional structure.

**IAIS ADVANCES DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON FRAMEWORK FOR SUPERVISION OF INTERNATIONALLY ACTIVE INSURANCE GROUPS**

For the past year or so, the IAIS has been working on improving international coordination and supervision relating to so-called "internationally active insurance groups" (IAIGs). At the IAIS Triannual meeting in Bahrain in June 2010, the Executive Committee approved the mandate and workplan of what is now to be called "the Common Framework for the Supervision of Internationally Active Insurance Groups Task Force" or ComFrame for short. This is an ambitious project which will span, at minimum, three years. The workplan has been segmented into three phases and is now just beginning. At present, the Task Force is chaired by Monica Mächler of Switzerland, and the NAIC is actively participating through Commissioners and NAIC staff.

In the initial phase of the work on ComFrame, some work will be performed directly by the Task Force, some by Technical Committee subcommittees such as the Insurance Groups and Solvency Subcommittees, and some by soon to be formalized 'Ad Hoc' groups. The communication document announcing ComFrame notes: "IAIS emphasises that ComFrame is not intended to be a collection of overly-prescriptive, narrowly-defined approaches. On the contrary, ComFrame will be outcome-focused and, whilst it will not be rules-based, its requirements will be accompanied with specific parameters and specifications." This project is likely to be one of the most important pieces of IAIS work for the next few years.

**NAIC CONTRIBUTES TO WORK OF IAIS INSURANCE CORE PRINCIPLES (ICP) REVIEW TASK FORCE**

The IAIS is currently revising the Insurance Core Principles (ICPs) and corresponding standards and guidance material. The goal is to have a complete set of revised and restructured ICPs and corresponding standards and guidance material ready for adoption at the October 2011 IAIS General Meeting. The focus of the work is on the ICPs and standards. Corresponding guidance will also be reviewed or developed where time allows, but if necessary, guidance may be completed after October 2011.

In March 2009, the ICP Coordination Group was formed to take forward the work of the former ICP Review Task Force and manage the process to meet the 2011 deadline for having a revised set of ICPs. The ICP Coordination Group consists of Working Party Chairs and representatives from the IMF and World Bank, who provide their input on experience with the practical application of ICPs and the FSAP process. The ICP Coordination Group is responsible for coordinating the ICP review process to ensure comprehensiveness and consistency of approach, to resolve any issues of overlap between working parties, to identify any gaps between current supervisory material which would need to be filled to promote a high level of implementation of the ICPs, and ultimately to ensure a revised set of ICPs is ready for adoption in October 2011.

Once revision to the ICPs is completed in 2011, it will be clear that the ICPs are the highest level in the hierarchy of IAIS supervisory material and form the overall umbrella for all other supervisory material. The ICPs will be the only “principles” and will prescribe the essential elements that must be present in a supervisory regime in order to promote a sound insurance sector. Standards will be directly under the ICPs in the hierarchy of supervisory material and will be linked to specific ICPs. Standards will set out key high level requirements that are fundamental to the implementation of the ICPs and should be met to demonstrate observance with the core principles.

There will no longer be “essential” and “advanced” criteria which are part of the 2003 Insurance Core Principles and Methodology. The ideas currently expressed as essential criteria will be incorporated into the new standards. The advanced criteria in the 2003 Insurance Core Principles and Methodology will be reviewed and either incorporated into the new standards or otherwise be transferred to guidance material. The explanatory notes will be reviewed and the content will move to standards if they are considered part of the assessment criteria or to guidance if they merely provide background information.

The ICPs and corresponding standards and guidance material have been allocated to working parties for review in line with their areas of expertise. The substance of the work is taking place at the working party level where the NAIC has state
regulators and/or staff actively participating in the ICP review and revision process. The U.S. representatives on these IAIS working parties additionally work through the relevant NAIC groups to receive feedback and guidance on material being discussed at the IAIS level. By actively participating in this review process from the early drafting stages to the final approval steps, the NAIC plays an important role in establishing internationally acceptable standards for insurance supervision.

STATE PARTICIPATION IN SUPERVISORY COLLEGES

U.S. state insurance regulators continue to regularly participate and convene supervisory colleges for insurance-related groups. The NAIC also continues to evaluate the role of supervisory colleges and other methods of communication amongst cross-border and cross-sectoral supervisors with the Supervisory College Subgroup under the Group Solvency Issues Working Group of the Solvency Modernization Initiative (EX) Task Force. The Subgroup is charged with making recommendations for courses of actions relating to this issue, and recently completed a supervisory college tracking chart, discussed how to maximize feedback from regulators attending supervisory colleges; and discussed creation of a web-based form for international regulators to voluntarily fill out regarding logistics on U.S. regulator participation at supervisory colleges.

NAIC/CIPR SYMPOSIUM ON SUPERVISION OF INTERNATIONALLY ACTIVE INSURANCE GROUPS

On July 15-16, 2010, the NAIC/CIPR sponsored a Symposium on Supervision of Internationally Active Insurance Groups which had 46 attendees. Those that attended included a Canadian Supervisor, a Bermudian Supervisor, 14 representatives from mostly internationally active insurers, and the rest being U.S. insurance regulators and NAIC staff. The panel members representing the insurance industry brought different perspectives on how they managed group-wide risks reflecting the differences in organizational structure and risk management practices. Breakout groups were formed discussing best practices for group-wide supervision, jurisdictional issues and challenges, the regulatory benefits of ORSA (Own Risk and Solvency Assessment), and the role of corporate governance and enterprise risk management in a regulatory environment.

EUROPE: SOLVENCY II - EQUIVALENCE

The NAIC is in discussions with the European Union on the equivalence process in relation to the EU’s Solvency II initiative. In early December 2009, the EU Committee of European Insurance and Occupational Pension Supervisors (CEIOPS) issued Consultation Paper No. 78 on technical criteria for assessing third country equivalence under three articles of the Solvency II Framework Directive: Article 172 (Reinsurance supervision), Article 227 (group solvency calculations) and Article 260 (group supervision). The equivalence assessment can be done solely in relation to equivalence under each article or in relation to a combination of the articles.

On April 1, 2010, CEIOPS issued its final advice to the European Commission (the final decision-maker in this process) noting that in order to be considered equivalent, a third country regime must meet each of the applicable principles and objectives for the relevant article. However, the advice also noted that every indicator (namely those factors which provide guidance in determining whether the relevant principle and objectives are achieved) does not necessarily need to be fulfilled in order for such principle and objective to be considered observed.

In June of 2010, CEIOPS was also asked by the Commission to draft advice as to which countries to include in the first wave of countries to be assessed for equivalence under Articles 172, 227 and 260 under the Solvency II Framework and the methodology used to define the list of first wave countries. There are a number of factors (although this list is not exhaustive)
that the Commission asked CEIOPS to take into consideration when making its determination among others the materiality of an equivalence finding to EU insurance and reinsurance undertakings and their policy holders, the number of related undertakings situated in the third country held by EU insurance and reinsurance undertakings, the importance of the insurance market in the third country of the equivalence finding, and whether the third country currently has a supervisory regime that is fully risk-based.

On July 13, CEIOPS released its draft advice in Consultation Paper No. 81 as to which “third countries” should be included in the first wave. Although the paper did not recommend including the U.S., it does provide a methodology in an annex on how to assess the U.S. if the Commission, which makes the final decision, decides to include the U.S. in the first wave. For the U.S., CEIOPS indicates that it would use similar processes and methodologies for an equivalence assessment of the U.S. as were used by the assessors during the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP). That process relies heavily on the NAIC Financial Regulation Standards & Accreditation Program.

The NAIC recently submitted comments on Paper No. 81. In addition to comments expressed by the NAIC on CEIOPS Paper No. 78, the NAIC comments to Paper No. 81 advocated that the U.S. be included in the “first wave” of countries assessed under the “equivalence” process. The NAIC also strongly supported a truly outcomes-based approach, and urged the EU to avoid disruption of transatlantic insurance business, which is in the mutual interest of both Europe and the U.S., and prevents an unlevel playing field for non-EU insurers. At the end of August, CEIOPS will present its final advice to the Commission, and by mid-November the Commission will make its final decision on which countries will be in the first wave. The NAIC will continue to work with CEIOPS and the European Commission on this issue and other mutual transatlantic objectives going forward.

**OECD HOLDS CONFERENCE ON TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE & 85TH SESSION OF THE INSURANCE AND PRIVATE PENSIONS COMMITTEE**

Superintendent Wrynn (NY) participated in a two-day conference on terrorism risk insurance, June 1–2, at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France. The conference brought together the heads of all 11 national terrorism insurance programs established in OECD member countries; the program was organized under the auspices of the OECD Secretary-General High Level Advisory Board on Financial Management of Catastrophes, in association with the Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation. More than 120 representatives from government, top decision makers from the (re)insurance market, and experts of leading research institutions participated in what was the largest ever gathering of key players in terrorism insurance markets.

The major focus of this conference was how to approach the compensation of losses occurring from a terrorist attack in the future. The broad consensus was that “there is governmental responsibility in the prevention and mitigation of terror attacks as well as the definition of a suitable regulatory framework to operate in, whereas the insurance industry manages risk transfer and financial impact of such attacks. In various countries, it may be reasonable to expect insurers to manage such risk up to certain limits beyond which governments may need to play a role of (re)insurer of last resort.”

One of the main outcomes of this meeting was to establish—under the aegis of the OECD High Level Advisory Board—a permanent international platform on the financial coverage of terrorism risk. This platform will monitor the evolution of national terrorism insurance programs, the degree of government involvement, provide more detailed analyses of private (re-)insurance market trends and allow closer collaboration on economic responses to terrorism.

This new OECD platform will foster the development of best practices on financial prevention, mitigation and compensation of terrorism risk to ensure fast economic recovery after another attack, benefiting not only the countries that currently operate national terrorism insurance programs, but also informing countries where national terrorism insurance programs have not been established—20-some OECD countries, plus virtually almost all many those outside the organization.

The OECD Insurance and Private Pensions Committee convened June 3–4. Participants from the 30 Member countries and private sector representatives engaged in discussions on a number of issues, including effective monitoring of insurance markets, policy issues related to corporate structures, revisions to the OECD guidelines for insurers’ governance, addressing financial consumer protection deficiencies, best practices on mitigating and financing catastrophic risks, proposal for work on failure resolution of failing insurers and the program of work for 2011–2012.

The Committee also discussed in closed session the accession of Russia to the OECD and discussed holding a seminar in Moscow, Russia to continue talks with the Russian authorities.
NAIC INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE FORUM

The NAIC held its Annual International Insurance Forum, May 17–18, and event that brings together regulators and industry from around the world – this year’s theme aimed to present a better understanding of the U.S. insurance sector through the prism of the recently-completed Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP). This two-day event brought together more than 120 participants from the U.S. regulatory community, U.S. financial regulatory agencies (Treasury, OTS, SEC and Federal Reserve Board), Capitol Hill, non-U.S. regulatory agencies, the private sector and academia.

In light of the recent NAIC participation in the FSAP, participants learned more about the process, the results of the FSAP vis-à-vis the Insurance Core Principles (ICP) maintained by the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) and recommendations received.

Highlights included a presentation from Meg Lundsager, the U.S. Executive Director to the IMF, and a keynote address by Marisa Lago, Treasury’s Assistant Secretary for International Markets and Development. Ms. Lago gave an overview of the U.S. participation in the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and G20, and its potential impact for the insurance sector. Julie Erhardt, Security & Exchange Commission’s (SEC) Deputy Chief Accountant was also a key note speaker. Ms. Erhardt discussed the SEC’s work plan regarding possible convergence towards International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Participants also heard from two senior Congressional staff on the then-pending financial reform proposals in the U.S.

The program included panel discussions with over 25 panelists on:
- The Optimal Amount of Group Level Supervision?
- Whether the Insurance Sector is Systemically Risky?
- Corporate Governance Issues for insurers?
- Supervisory Recognition – What Should Equivalence Mean?
- How Much Should Regulators Rely on Insurers’ Solvency Assessment?
- The role of regulation in market expansion?

We thank all of those who participated in the forum, and “stay tuned” for details on the next forum which will be in May 2011.

NAIC RUNS SIMULATION GAME FOR ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF ASSAL IN SANTIAGO, CHILE

The NAIC was asked by the Association of Latin American Insurance Supervisors (ASSAL) to provide training at their annual assembly held April 19–22 in Santiago, Chile. As part of Puerto Rico’s dual roles as a member of both ASSAL and the NAIC, they suggested reusing the simulation game on solvency known as SOURCE (Simulated Operating and Underwriting Results in a Competitive Environment) licensed by Towers Watson.

The SOURCE game is a group exercise in which each group, acting as the management of an insurance company, make pricing, underwriting and marketing decisions for their company to attempt to increase the company’s value. Their decisions on product price, underwriting selectivity and agents’ commissions are entered into a simulation model, which simulates an insurance market represented by the companies of each group. The results are presented and discussed at the end of each round. The team that creates the most value for their company (measured as appraisal value) wins the game. The purpose of this session is to gain an understanding of how the pricing, underwriting and marketing decisions impact the company’s value.

Thomas Bailey from Towers Watson who has been running the SOURCE game for the NAIC at its Commissioners Forum for the past 10 years conducted the exercise at the ASSAL meeting entirely in Spanish. Each round of the game represents a calendar year, and 4 rounds equaling 4 years were run. Out of the 75 attendees, about 50 participated in the game, making up five teams. This included at least three of the insurance superintendents from the various countries.
The feedback received during and after the sessions was quite positive and the NAIC is now working with the ASSAL to develop a new training program for 2011.

NAIC PARTICIPATES IN U.S.-CHINA STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC DIALOGUE

Commissioner Susan Voss (IA) and NAIC staff represented the NAIC May 22 & 23 at the second meeting of the U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED). The S&ED was established by President Obama and Chinese President Hu in April 2009 and represents the highest-level bilateral forum to discuss a broad range of issues between the two nations. The event was launched by President Hu Jintao, Vice Premier Wang, Councilor Dai, and Secretaries Clinton and Geithner in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China.

The economic track participants included the Secretaries of the Treasury, Commerce, Health & Human Services; U.S. Trade Representative; Chair Council of Economic Advisors; Director Office of Science & Technology Policy; Chairman of the Federal Reserve; President of the U.S. Export-Import Bank; Chairman Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Director U.S. Trade and Development Agency; and a number of other high level officials (over 200 U.S. participants). China had equally impressive representation from their side. The China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC) was represented Chairman WU Dingfu and also Director General of the international department BO Jiang.

The topics discussed over two days included: promoting a strong recovery and more sustainable balanced growth; promoting mutually beneficial trade and investment; financial market stability and reform; and reform of international financial architecture.

At the conclusion of the economic dialogue both sides reaffirmed their commitment to continue working together to strengthen economic cooperation. The U.S. and China agreed to the following language in the concluding statement specific to insurance: “Both sides will further strengthen cooperation and exchange regarding the improvement of insurance regulation, including with regard to insurance management of assets issues.”

In addition to participating in this dialogue Commissioner Voss also held a brief meeting with CIRC’s Chairman WU Dingfu on the sideline of the S&ED meeting and held a more extensive private meeting with Vice Chairman LI Kemu. Topics that were discussed included: an update on health reform in the U.S.; macroprudential tools and systemic risk; the U.S. & Chinese FSAP; increased cooperation between the NAIC and CIRC; and the financial reform efforts being undertaken in the U.S.

Commissioner Voss was also able to briefly meet with the AM-Cham Insurance Forum and provide them with an update on the S&ED and our dialogue with the CIRC.

KOREA: REGULATORY DIALOGUE WITH KOREAN REGULATORS & MEETINGS WITH INDUSTRY

Commissioner Voss and NAIC staff participated in a regulatory dialogue with the Korean insurance regulator Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) on the heels of the S&ED in China. As part of this dialogue the FSS and NAIC shared experiences with regards to ongoing modernization in their respective countries and discussed future cooperation between the two agencies. An MOU was signed during the visit to Seoul, Korea to facilitate the placement of a Korean regulator at the NAIC for an 18 month period. During that time Charlie Park of FSS Korea will have an opportunity to participate in various different divisions of the NAIC and also spend some time in a State regulators office. The FSS and the NAIC agreed to hold a seminar later this year in Seoul, on ways in which to combat insurance fraud and share best practices.
In early October, the NAIC will welcome 15 interns to our International Intern Program, including from China (5); India (4); Korea (1); Lebanon (1); Republic of Srpska (1); and Thailand (3). Host jurisdictions for the fall 2010 program include California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The NAIC developed the program in 2004 to advance working relationships with foreign market regulators, emphasizing the exchange of regulatory techniques and technology.

The program will conclude in New York, NY with a presentation from the NAIC’s Securities Valuation Office (SVO) on investment analysis followed by a debriefing program, a seminar on industry-regulator relations by the U.S. insurance industry and a ceremonial graduation dinner to highlight the interns’ accomplishments. The NAIC internship program is conducted twice a year—spring and fall.

With the completion of the 2010 fall program, a total of 133 interns from 23 countries will have participated in the training program. To date, 27 U.S. jurisdictions have hosted these non-U.S. regulators, including: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia. We look forward to additional states joining this growing list.

Since the China-Pilot program began in 2004, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Egypt, India, Jordan, Korea, Lebanon, Thailand, Republic of Srpska, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, and Vietnam have participated in the NAIC’s training program.

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<th>Timeline for Fall 2010 program</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NAIC Central Office, Kansas City, Missouri</strong></td>
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<td>Training Dates: October 11–15</td>
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<td><strong>NAIC – National Meeting – Orlando, Florida</strong></td>
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<td>Dates: October 18–21</td>
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<td><strong>Host State—State Insurance Department</strong></td>
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<td>Week 1–5: October 25–November 19</td>
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<td><strong>NAIC Securities Valuation Office – New York</strong></td>
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<td>Dates: November 22–23</td>
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**NAIC STAFF MEETS WITH CEO OF AUSTRALIA’s PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REGULATOR**

In June NAIC staff met with Mr. Shaun Gath the CEO of Australia’s Private Health Insurance Administration Council (PHIAC). PHIAC is the Australian government agency responsible for overseeing the prudential security of Australia’s private health insurance industry and protecting the interests of consumers. Mr. Gath noted that the recent American health care debate had generated much interest in Australia, not least at PHIAC and that, as the Australian regulator, he was very interested to understand in greater detail how prudential elements of the new regulatory arrangements would be established and maintained. The discussion also included Australia’s approach to regulating a “cohabiting” public and private health insurance system.

**IAIS COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES: UPDATE**

Established in 1994, the IAIS represents insurance regulators and supervisors of some 180 jurisdictions in more than 130 countries, constituting 97% of the world’s insurance premiums. With the growth and importance of insurance and standard setting, the IAIS now has more than 100 observers from the private sector, academia, and international organizations.
The IAIS Triannual meetings & Global Seminar were held June 21 - 24 in Manama, Bahrain and NAIC participants included Commissioners McCarty (FL) and Wrynn (NY); Ray Spudeck (FL); Joe Fritsch (NY) and NAIC staff. The next IAIS Triannual Meeting & Annual Conference will be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in October.

Executive Committee [Commissioners Cline (WV), McCarty (FL); and George Brady (NAIC)]

- Approved for consultation with Members and Observers:
  - ICP 5: Suitability of Persons and corresponding standard and guidance
  - ICP 13: Reinsurance and Other Forms of Risk Transfer and corresponding standard and guidance
  - ICPs related to Solvency (investments, ERM, capital adequacy and internal models)—standards and guidance will be put into new ICP format and Solvency Subcommittee will conduct a consultation on the wording of the four Solvency ICPs; to be adopted at October Triannual

- Endorsed for adoption at the 2010 Annual General Meeting:
  - ICP 4: Licensing and corresponding standard and guidance
  - Standard on Cross-Border Cooperation on Crisis Management—subject to reformatting into new ICP format

- Approved further work on a pilot program on self-assessment and peer review as a complement to the FSAP and as part of the IAIS commitment to strengthening efforts on its implementation activities.

  - Agreed to issue for consultation with Members and Observers a proposal regarding approval of supervisory papers by the Executive Committee
  - Approved the substance of a paper on Governance Principles for Working Party Meetings.
  - Agreed to consolidate the work plans of the Standard Setting, Implementation and Financial Stability activities of the IAIS.
  - Agreed to include in the consultation document a recommendation on additional internal resources, including recruiting 2 additional staff to reduce reliance on secondments; 3 additional staff to support future activities; and a senior economist for work on financial stability issues and for input into work on macroprudential surveillance.

- Requested further work from the Implementation Committee on plans for updating the Core Curriculum and for developing a self-assessment questionnaire and tool.

- Approved creation of Audit Committee (members: Michel Flamee (Belgium), Wu Dingfu (China), Fangman Ouattara (CIMA) and George Brady (USA/NAIC).

Budget Committee [Ryan Workman (NAIC)]

- Discussed the 2009 audited financial statements and issues related to the 2010 draft budget.
- Received a report from the Secretariat on budget forecasting for 2010 and an updated on the status of fee received to date from Members and Observers.
- Discussed a proposal for a revised investment policy.
- Discussed budgetary issues related to the strategic review such as potential fee increase scenarios.
- Received a Budget Report on the 2010 Annual Conference in Dubai and the 2011 Annual Conference in Korea.

Technical Committee [Commissioner McCarty (FL)]

- Announced that Commissioner Gross (VA) would be resigning as the Chair of Technical Committee
- Received a report from the Secretariat on recent FSB meetings and activities
- Discussed the work of the Insurance Core Principles (ICP) Coordination Group including the current approach for application of the ICPs to insurance groups.
- Results of consultations following the February Triannual:
  - Issues paper on the Regulation and Supervision of Mutuals, Cooperatives and Other Community-based Organizations in Increasing Access to Insurance Markets—required more time to resolve comments from consultation; to be adopted at October Triannual
  - ICP and Standard on Valuation for Solvency Purposes—Joint Valuation Working Group will look at the timing for advancing this material
  - Various ICPs and standards (those not assigned to technical subcommittees): Objectives, powers and responsibilities of the supervisor; Supervisor Authority; Licensing; Changes in control and portfolio transfers; Supervisory review
and reporting; Preventative and corrective measures; Enforcement or sanctions; Macropedential supervision and market analysis—comments to be discussed and resolved during a session at the October Triannual

- Discussed proposals for improving the usefulness and effectiveness of the key risks and trends report and pressure points
- Discussed Joint Forum matters, including the mandates for the new workstreams.
- Received a summary note on findings from a survey on supervisory colleges.

**Financial Stability Committee** [Commissioner McCarty (FL)]
- The NAIC hosted the FSC meeting in Washington D.C. on May 19th where a large part of the discussion focused on the draft note on the issue of the insurance sector and systemic risk for submission to the FSB in early June and public release. There was also an Observer hearing and discussion on systemic risk and insurance.
- The FSC also met on August 4th via conference call to discuss the FSC working paper on key financial stability issues, the IAIS role in macropedential surveillance and the FSC Roadmap process.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 8 to discuss the FSB Steering Committee meeting on September 13.

**Accounting Subcommittee (ASC) and Insurance Contracts Subcommittee (ICSC)** [Rob Esson (NAIC) Chair]
- Meetings held in Basel July 12-16 (including a 1½ day meeting of the Joint Valuation Working Group).
- The ICSC members had access to a pre-publication draft of the IASB's Insurance Contracts Exposure Draft (now published). As a result, many relatively non-contentious items were dealt with during the meeting.
- The ICSC will meet in Tokyo August 25-26, where more contentious items such as margins and discount rates will be discussed, and other positions refined.
- The ICSC also agreed to a short letter to the IASB regarding Financial Instrument Impairment supporting both the Basel Committee's submission and the Expert Advisory Panel's suggestions for simplification.
- The ASC discussed the constitution of a new Accounting and Auditing Subcommittee, while coming to no consensus as to whether the ICSC should continue short term as a task force of the ASC or as a subcommittee through to issuance of the Insurance Contracts standard.

**Common Framework for the Supervision of Internationally Active Insurance Groups Task Force** (ComFrame) [Rob Esson (NAIC)]
- Mandate was approved in Bahrain in June. As a result, a number of workstreams will begin for the coming year.

**Governance and Compliance Subcommittee** [Director McRaith (IL)]
- The last meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur July 8-9 where the main discussion points were related to the draft ICP, Standards & Guidance on Corporate Governance and on Internal Controls.
- The draft ICP, standards and guidance on Suitability of Persons were completed and submitted to the Technical Committee for wider consultation at the June Triannual.
- The next meeting will be held September 13-14 in Quebec City where comments received on Suitability will be resolved and the draft finalized in order to be forwarded to the Technical Committee and Executive Committee for approval for adoption at the October Triannual.
- Additionally, the ICP standards and guidance on Corporate Governance (which includes material on remuneration) is expected to be completed and forwarded to the Technical Committee for wider consultation in October.

**Insurance Groups & Cross-Sectoral Issues Subcommittee** [Ray Spudeck (FL)]
- The last meeting was in Basel, Switzerland on July 6-8, 2010.
- The Committee received an update from the Joint Forum that noted Ray Spudeck (FL) has been appointed as new Co-Chair of the Joint Forum Working Group on Risk Assessment and Capital.
- Discussed three new workstreams of the Joint Forum: 1) Securitization incentives; 2) Intra-group support and 3) Review of the Conglomerates Principles.
- Discussed an IAIS draft letter to BCBS and IOSCO on two key issues being discussed within the Joint Forum.
- Discussed draft position Statement on cross-border resolution. The Position paper is intended to prepare an official IAIS statement on resolution matters in the insurance sector addressed to the FSB.
- Discussed how internationally active insurance groups (IAIGs) might be covered under the ComFrame.
- Discussed application of the ICPs and new standards to solo and group levels.
- Discussed survey responses to Issues Paper on Supervisory Resolution of Cross-border Entities. The first draft of the paper is expected by August 27, 2010 and NAIC is participating on the drafting group. A case study was prepared by NAIC and OSFI for IAIS members to illustrate an example of cross-border coordination with a receivership.
- Discussed that the ICP 16 Winding-up and Exit from the Market will not apply at the group level.

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• Discussed supervisory colleges repository. There was general consensus to obtain the information from group-wide supervisors to avoid duplication of efforts or inconsistent information.
• The next meeting of the IGCS is in Washington, D.C. on September 7-9, 2010. The Co-Chairs of Group Solvency Issues (EX) Working Group will be attending.
• Ongoing discussions and drafting related to the following:
  ▪ Standard and Guidance on Scope of Group, Legal Authority and Supervisory Power.
  ▪ Guidance Paper on financial conglomerates/cross-sectoral supervision.
  ▪ Guidance Paper on supervisory recognition.
  ▪ Standard on Guidance on Exchange of Information.
  ▪ Standard and guidance on supervisory cooperation and coordination.

**Insurance Fraud Working Group** [Mike Ridgeway (OK)]
• The last meeting was held in Budapest, Hungary January 26–28 where the group focused on the draft ICP, standards and guidance on insurance fraud and AML/CFT
• Progress continues on the draft ICP, standards and guidance on insurance fraud and on AML/CFT. This group’s work continues to be tied to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and will be working to ensure that the IAIS ICP, standards and guidance are in line with FATF recommendations.
• The next meeting will be 16-17 September in Québec City.

**Market Conduct Subcommittee** [Commissioner Kim Holland (OK)]
• The last meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur July 5-6 where the group continued to revise the draft ICP, standards and guidance on insurance intermediaries and on the conduct of business.
• The next meeting will be held following the Governance & Compliance meetings in Québec City, September 15-16 where both drafts are expected to be completed and then forwarded to the Technical Committee for wider consultation at the October Triannual.

**Reinsurance and Other Forms of Risk Transfer Subcommittee & Reinsurance Transparency Group** [Bob Kasinow (NJ)]
• Following approval at the June IAIS Triannual meeting, the subcommittee released a draft of ICP 13—Reinsurance and Other Forms of Risk Transfer for a formal consultation period ending August 29, 2010
• Reinsurance Task Force is currently reviewing this draft, NAIC staff will coordinate comments. No major problems anticipated with respect to the material.
• The RTG is working to finalize the Global Reinsurance Market Report Mid-Year Edition 2010, which will focus on the issue of macroprudential surveillance.
• Report will include key empirical findings from an IAIS-wide survey regarding macroprudential surveillance activities; insights from specific jurisdictions (U.S.-NAIC, Asia, Europe) and organizations (OECD, IMF); and performance of the reinsurance market during the financial crisis. NAIC input was very well received.
• The RTG considers the NAIC input extremely beneficial due to our multi-jurisdictional perspective and we are recognized as world leaders with respect to data collection and analysis.
• The report will be completed shortly and published by the end of August.
• Next meetings will be held September 29-30 in London; mid-November in U.S. (most likely New York).

**Solvency and Actuarial Issues Subcommittee (SSC)** [Ramon Calderon (NAIC/CIPR) vice chair; Joe Fritsch (NY)]
• The SSC met in Tokyo from June 7-10, 2010.
• The SSC continued its discussion of group-wide application of ICPs and standards. In particular, the U.S. commented that since the ICPs and standards apply both on a solo entity level and a group level (unless otherwise stated), we needed to be extremely careful in defining how ICPs and standards are applied from a group-wide perspective. The Chair concluded that the SSC would draft a letter to the Insurance Core Principles Coordination Group seeking resolution on how to address the question of applying ICPs and standards on a group-wide basis.
• The SSC went through a lengthy review and discussion of detailed changes to the standard/guidance papers based on the comments that were received during the consultation phase.
• The SSC concluded that based on comments received, it would not support a single insurance core principle (ICP) supporting the various standards papers, but would revert back to four individual solvency-related ICPs. The proposed amended ICPs would be submitted to the Technical Committee (in Bahrain) for informational purposes.
• The SSC received a phone update from the Chair of the ComFrame Task Force (Monica Machler) during the Tokyo meeting. The Chair proposed that an initial stocktaking/survey of group-wide supervisory measures be performed. There was some hesitation on dedicating resources to this survey when the ComFrame is still at its infancy, and no formal
adoption had yet taken place as of this meeting. There continues to be widespread acknowledgement that the SSC will play an active role in the substantive formation of a ComFrame, particularly in regard to Module 3.

**Implementation Committee [Ekrem Sarper (NAIC)]**

- Discussed the strategic direction on standard implementation with respect to key recommendations coming from the Internal Review Task Force.
- The committee discussed shifting its focus away from purely providing support to emerging markets in the form of education, training seminars and translation. The committee should work to ensure that the more developed economies work towards implementing the IAIS standards.
- Discussed the proposed self-assessment and peer review concept that the IAIS is considering developing.
- Received a report related to the upcoming pilot self-assessment and peer review of supervisory cooperation and information exchange which will be held in the fall.
- Received a presentation from Actuaries Without Borders on the outreach and capacity building services that they provide for developing actuarial capability.
- Discussed greater cooperation between the IAIS and the Financial Stability Institute (FSI) and FSI’s on-line education initiative FSI Connect.
- Received a report from the Implementation Activities Approval Subcommittee, Regional Coordination Subcommittee, Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding initiative, Insurance Laws, Regulations and Practices Subcommittee (ILS) and the Task Force on Information Gathering and Analysis.
- Received an Update on the translation initiative

**Implementation Activities Approval Subcommittee (IAAS) [Ekrem Sarper (NAIC)]**

- The IAAS met June 22 in Manama, Bahrain.
- The IAAS discussed the proposal from the Moroccan authorities to hold a regional seminar in Casablanca, Morocco in January 2011.
- The IAAS approved the seminar proposal, but requested that a detailed agenda be submitted three months before the seminar.
- The next meeting will be held during the next Triannual meeting in Dubai, UAE.

**Task Force on Information Gathering and Analysis (TFIG) [Ekrem Sarper (NAIC)]**

- The TFIG held a conference call following the February Triannual Meetings and discussed comments received on the first draft of the Application Paper on Information Gathering and Analysis.
- In light of few comments received, it was decided that the paper would be released to the public by the Implementation Committee for a 30 day comment period.
- The next meeting will be held at the upcoming Triannual Meeting in Dubai.

**IAIS-MIN Joint Working Group on Microinsurance [Commissioner Ross (MI)]**

- The last two meetings were held in Basel, Switzerland on July 8th (in conjunction with the Financial Stability Institute Meeting on Microinsurance – Promoting Successful Regulatory and Supervisory Approaches for Increased Access to Insurance) and Berlin, Germany on May 3-6 in conjunction with the Microinsurance Conference entitled "Enabling Microinsurance Markets Overcoming the challenges for the insurance industry, regulators and supervisors and Expert Round Table for Insurance Supervisors on the G20 Financial Inclusion Process".
- At the Berlin meeting, members received an update on the Access to Insurance Initiative (www.access-to-insurance.org) which was launched during the IAIS Annual Conference in Rio de Janeiro on October 22, 2009. Members also provided an update on recent regulatory and policy initiatives in Microinsurance from different jurisdictions. Members reviewed comments on the draft Issues Paper on the Regulation and Supervision of Mutuals, Cooperatives and other Community-based organizations in Increasing Access to Insurance Markets. Members also provided input to the G20's Access Through Innovation Subgroup (AITSG) of the Financial Inclusion Experts Group draft Principles and Report on Innovative Financial Inclusion to ensure that the role of microinsurance in financial inclusion is appropriately reflected in the report and supplemented by appropriate examples.
- At the Basel meeting the group discussed the next steps for IAIS input into the second component of the Work Plan of the G20's Access Through Innovation Subgroup (AITSG) of the Financial Inclusion Experts Group.
- The next meeting will be September 21-22 in Capetown, South Africa.
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List of Abbreviations

ABIR  Association of Bermuda Insurers and Reinsurers  
AFIRC  Arab Forum of Insurance Regulatory Commissions 
AITRI  ASEAN Insurance Training & Research Institute  
APEC  Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation  
ASEAN  Association of Southeast Asian Nations  
ASSAL  Association of Latin American Insurance Supervisors  
BIS  Bank for International Settlements  
CEA  Comité Européen des Assurances (European insurance and reinsurance federation)  
CEIOPS  Committee of European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Supervisors  
CGAP  Consultative Group to Assist the Poor  
CIRC  China Insurance Regulatory Commission  
EU  European Union  
FSF  Financial Stability Forum  
FSI  Financial Stability Institute  
FSWG  Financial Sector Working Group  
GATS  General Agreement on Trade in Services  
G30  Group of Thirty, Consultative Group on International Economic and Monetary Affairs, Inc  
IAA  International Actuarial Association  
IAIS  International Association of Insurance Supervisors  
IASB  International Accounting Standards Board  
ICCL  Insurance Control Commission Lebanon  
IFC  International Finance Corporation  
IIF  Institute for International Finance  
IOPS  International Organization of Pension Supervisors  
IOSCO  International Organization of Securities Commissions  
IPPC  OECD Insurance and Private Pensions Committee  
JCCT  US-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade  
MIN  Microinsurance Network  
NAFTA  North American Free Trade Agreement  
NCOIL  National Conference of Insurance Legislators  
OCC  Office of the Comptroller of the Currency  
OECD  Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development  
OGIS  Offshore Group of Insurance Supervisors  
USTR  U.S. Trade Representative  
WTO  World Trade Organization

National Supervisory Authorities:

- Australia: Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA)  
- Belgium: Commission Bancaire, Financière et des Assurances (CBFA)  
- Brazil: Superintendência de Seguros Privados (SUSEP)  
- Canada: Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI)  
- France: l'Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel (ACP)  
- Hungary: Hungarian Financial Supervisory Authority (HFSA)  
- India: India Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)  
- Italy: Istituto per la Vigilanza sulle Assicurazioni Private e di Interesse Collettivo (ISVAP)  
- Japan: Financial Services Agency (FSA)  
- Korea: Financial Supervisory Service (FSS)  
- UK: Financial Supervisory Authority (FSA)
The *International Report* is produced by the International Relations Staff of the NAIC (for the use of NAIC members). If you would like further information regarding any of the issues addressed in these articles, please contact the NAIC’s Office of Government and International Relations in Washington, DC at:

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For copies of this and past editions of the International Report, and other information on the International Insurance Relations (G) Committee, visit: [http://www.naic.org/committees_g.htm](http://www.naic.org/committees_g.htm)