Under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Ruler of Dubai, The UAE Internal Auditors Association (UAE IAA) will be hosting the Internal Auditors International Conference 2018 at the Dubai World Trade Centre from 6th – 9th May. The theme for the conference is: “Connecting the World through Innovation”.

In anticipation of the 2018 International Conference, a big delegation headed by the UAE IAA Chairman, Abdulqader Obaid Ali, attended the International Conference 2017 in Sydney, Australia from 23rd – 26th July 2017. The UAE IAA had a large booth at the exhibition area which was appreciated by the visitors as one of the best booths. The booth attracted the most attendance. The Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM) & the UAE Embassy supported the UAE IAA in setting up an Arabic traditional tent where Arabic coffee and dates were served to the visitors. Besides the give-aways, traditional culture of the UAE were on display viz. a henna lady who surprised the visitors by drawing beautiful designs on their hands & a calligrapher who wrote the visitors names in Arabic. Conference attendees visited the UAE IAA booth to avail of its hospitality and to gain more information on the upcoming International Conference in 2018. Amongst those were: Richard Chambers, President and CEO of IIA Global and his wife Kim Chambers, Past Chairpersons of the board, Angela Witzany and Mike Fucilli. Others to visit the booth were delegates from various IIA Chapters, viz., IIA Singapore, IIA China (Taiwan), ECIIA, IIA India, IIA KSA, State Audit Institution of Kuwait.

The last day of the conference saw a flag handover ceremony where the IIA Australian Chairman passed the IC 2018 flag to the UAE delegation which was headed by H.E. Matar Ali Al Mansoori, Deputy Chief of Mission, UAE Embassy in Australia who was accompanied by all the UAE attendees.
A common issue facing Internal Audit functions is how to ensure that audit report action plans actually get implemented by management. The “follow-up” phase of the audit cycle can demand significant time and effort from the Audit team that could be allocated to more “added value” activities. In coordination with an established Internal Audit function at one of the prominent business houses in the region, the UAE IAA conducted some research into this area to better understand the most effective techniques being utilized by its peers. Presented below are the results of the survey.

**Monitoring Progress of Audit Findings**

![Graphs and charts showing survey results.](image)

It is interesting to note that of the organizations who have no policy in place to link individual performance reviews to IA audit report rating or Department specific over IA action plans, 91% of them feel that there will be an improvement to significant improvement in the perception of the IA as a business partner if such policies were implemented. Even with no such policies in place, 65% of these organizations monitor the implementation of the IA action plans via Key Performance Indicators.
The IIA’s CIA Learning System is a comprehensive and interactive CIA review program that teaches and reinforces the entire global Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) exam syllabus in a flexible, on-demand format. It combines reading materials, in printed and e-reader formats, with online tests and study tools to ensure you’re prepared to pass the CIA exam and armed with critical tools and knowledge to excel in your internal audit career.

Comprehensive Reading Materials: Reading materials provide the framework for your successful CIA exam preparation, teaching the entire global CIA exam syllabus in a concise and easy-to-understand format.

Materials teach the entire global 3-Part CIA exam syllabus.

**Part 1:** Internal Audit Basics (1 book)

**Part 2:** Internal Audit Practice (1 book)

**Part 3:** Internal Audit Knowledge Elements (3 books)

- Study with printed materials and e-books.
- Use books as reference materials for years to come.
- Ensure you have the most current knowledge with materials that align with international professional practices.

Interactive Online Study Tools: Online study tools, now optimized for mobile devices, will help you develop a personalized study plan, test your comprehension of the CIA syllabus topics, track your progress and finalize your CIA exam preparations.

- Pre-tests: Evaluate your initial knowledge to identify areas of strength and weakness.
- Smart-Study™: Build a customized study plan using your pre-test results to target your most challenging topics and optimize your study time.
- Chapter-specific quizzes: After reading each chapter, test your comprehension, retention, and ability to apply concepts.
- Flashcards: Offer a review of key internal audit terms and definitions.
- Post-tests: After studying all chapters, gauge the knowledge you’ve gained and areas that require further study.
- CIA Practice Exam: This final exam will help you build confidence using the computer-based CIA exam software before you enter the test center.
- Progress report: Track your activities and scores.

**Useful Resources**

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**Upcoming Events**

**October**

- 01 Certified Internal Auditor Part 2 - Arabic
- 01 Auditing Oracle Applications
- 04 Risk - based Auditing (ARABIC only)
- 08 COSO Internal Control New Certificate
- 15 Auditor Incharge Tools & Techniques
- 22 Leadership Skills For Auditors
- 29 Audit Report Writing

**November**

- 01 Risk Based Auditing
- 05 Corporate Governance (Arabic only)
- 12 Certified Internal Auditor Part 3 - Arabic
- 16 Communications Sills For Auditors
- 19 Internal Control: Perceptions versus Reality
- 21 Performing An Effective Quality Assessment
- 26 Audit Manager Tools & Techniques

**December**

- 06 Corporate Governance - Strategies For Internal Audit
- 17 Integrated Management Systme (IMS)
- 17 Certified Internal Auditor - Part 3 English
- 19 Creative Problem-solving Techniques for Auditors
- 19 Operational Auditing - Procurement, Supply Chain & Influencing Positive Change
The UAE IAA is conducting a second HASAAD batch in Arabic for the Ministry of Interior, Abu Dhabi, starting this September. The class is expected to have approximately 12 delegates for this batch.

The program is running successfully with the UAE organizations being at the forefront when it comes to inducting young UAE Nationals into the profession of internal audit. With the UAE striving to shift towards a knowledge-based economy pioneered by UAE Nationals, the HASAAD program is acting as a stepping stone to enabling skills revolving around good governance.

Previous batches of students have benefitted significantly with some having cleared the CIA Part 1 & 2 exams already. Abdulqader Obaid Ali, Chairman of the UA Internal Auditors Association has lauded the success of the program which is contributing to increasing the influx of Emirati youth in the mainstream workforce.