2020 ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION CUM SEMINAR

"Fostering Good Governance and Resilience During Pandemic"

December 2 – 4, 2020
The bamboo has long been a source of inspiration with its practical and aesthetic value. The bamboo survives by bending with the wind, wherever direction it blows. It tempers strength with flexibility.

The royal blue overlay represents the Association of Government Internal Auditors, Inc. It inspires Integrity, which is one of AGIA's organizational core values. Together with the other two core values of Professionalism and Accountability, AGIA continuously aims to attain its goals and mandate.

For this year’s convention logo, the strength of the bamboo is embodied in the 61 years of AGIA’s existence.

In this time of pandemic, we hope that everyone is able to adapt and remain steadfast and as resilient as the bamboo.

With our individual strengths, when combined with one another, we can strengthen the world around us.

The Creative Team

Winnie Carreon
Rizza de Leon

Special thanks to AGIA Board and Secretariat
Rain Ablir
My warmest greetings to the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA) as it holds its Virtual Annual National Convention cum Seminar.

The efforts of AGIA towards consistently promoting excellence and accountability among government internal auditors have contributed greatly to our pursuit of good governance and institutional integrity in the public sector.

May this virtual gathering, which reaffirms your commitment to your profession even during the COVID-19 pandemic, inspire you to serve our people with renewed vigor, competence and efficiency.

I trust that you will continue to flourish as a dynamic organization that will pave more sustainable paths of progress for the entire nation. Let us work together to achieve a stronger and better future for all Filipinos.

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
Greetings to the Association of Government Internal Auditors Inc. (AGIA) as you gather for your Virtual Annual National Convention cum Seminar.

The challenges we face as a nation grows far beyond the ravages of the pandemic: Our people continue to face poverty, climate change continues to threaten the environment, and injustice continues to plague our kababayans.

As public servants, we cannot put on hold our responsibilities as we work together in cleaning up the mess that this pandemic has brought upon us. And all the problems we face now can only be solved through cooperation across all fields. That is why I am proud that AGIA continues to be a beacon of hope in these extraordinary times.

We will always need government workers with integrity, honesty, and transparency. Your theme, "AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency during Pandemic" is proof positive that we have a fighting chance in building not only a "new normal" for our people but a "better normal" that Filipinos deserve. I hope that this gathering rekindles your passion to serve our nation the best way you can: By being vigilant in protecting the trust that has been given to us by the people, and serving with a purpose to lift lives out of poverty.

May you have a meaningful convention, and mabuhay po kayong lahat.
The 61st Anniversary of the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA), Inc. is both an occasion for thanksgiving and a renewal of the commitment to promote the professional growth of the internal auditors in the Philippines.

For more than six decades, the AGIA has provided seminars and training to internal auditors. Your theme AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency During Pandemic is indeed fitting because now, more than ever, the public demands accountability and transparency from our government agencies.

These difficult times require us to be more resilient in order to adopt to the "new normal" and overcome the challenges that are ahead of us. Remain steadfast to effectively and efficiently fulfill your duties. Be vigilant and do not compromise your integrity. Show strength, patience, and persistence no matter how tough the times may be.

Internal audit is an essential key in our nation's progress. Thus, I urge the AGIA to be relentless in finding ways to upgrade your skills and knowledge to better serve our countrymen. Keep up with the changing times and modernize your systems and processes. With your untiring devotion to your sworn duties, I am hopeful that you will pave the way for a more trustworthy, effective, and efficient governance of our country.

My most sincere congratulations to all the past and present AGIA officers. May you meet with even greater success in all you do in the years to come!

Diosdado M. Peralta
Chief Justice
My heartfelt felicitations to the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA), Inc. as it celebrates its 61st founding anniversary.

Transparency and accountability are two of the most integral elements of good governance. They are the foundation of a trustworthy government. In lieu with this, internal auditing has always been an important aspect of our government’s financial management system. An independent body that aims to evaluate and monitor the internal management controls and operations performance of governmental agencies as well as their compliance with laws and regulations is necessary to ensure that these government agencies make informed and effective decisions intended for the welfare of the Filipino people.

As we continue to face adversities brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, we rely on organizations like yours to aid us in our efforts to develop more calculated and systematic responses and strategies aimed at rebuilding our economy. This unprecedented public health crisis brought new waves of challenges that can only be hurdled through solidarity and cooperation.

May you continue to be led by your core values on professionalism, integrity and accountability. I encourage all of you to stand by these principles as we all work together in providing honest, transparent and more responsible services for the public.

Mabuhay ang Sambayanang Pilipino!

[Signature]

VICENTE C. SOTTO III
My warmest greetings to heads, officers, and various stakeholders of the Association of Government Internal Auditors, Inc. (AGIA) on your 61st National Convention and Annual Seminar on 2 to 4 December 2020.

As the newly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, I accepted the tremendous responsibility thrust upon us as we exercised our power of the purse – drafting the annual national budget. This specific mandate is all the more significant now with the COVID-19 pandemic draining state coffers at an unprecedented rate. It is our priority, however, to safeguard the health and safety of Filipinos, so, in crafting the 2021 General Appropriations Bill, we made increased allocations to certain sectors, notably public works, healthcare, and social welfare. These are allocations that are impetus of the government’s COVID-19 response.

We hope that AGIA continues to fulfill its duty and mandate of being government’s fiscalizers – ensuring that government funds go to who they are designated for, to where they have been identified, and for what purpose they have been appropriated. I resonate with your theme for this year’s national convention, “AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency during Pandemic,” since I consider integrity and honor to be cornerstones of my leadership in the larger chamber. I am confident that you will remain our faithful partners as we uphold high standards of accountability and transparency in government.

Without our government’s internal auditors, the whole gamut of government machinery will fail to perform its functions. After all, public service is about public trust. The role of AGIA in achieving this constitutional mandate is a foundation of rebuilding public confidence in our government and its bureaucracy.

*Mabuhay tayong lahat!*

Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco
In more than 60 years of promoting professionalism and continuing development among its members, the Association of Government Internal Auditors, Inc. (AGIA) has been a valuable partner in maintaining and improving the standards of the country’s internal audit profession.

Now more than ever, as our nation and the world battle an invisible adversary, AGIA is called upon to strengthen its resolve, in the midst of the raging Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, to continue its mission of instilling accountability, integrity, and professionalism among its members. Indeed, we see this direction already reflected in the theme that the Association has chosen for its 61st Annual National Convention "AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency during Pandemic."

As we traverse the path to the post-pandemic state, transition to new practices, and build our resilience to new situations, I am confident that AGIA will remain our remarkable partner in ensuring that our internal auditors, as well as our internal auditing practices, can adapt to the changing times and aid us in managing future risks.

No hurdles or obstacles can be larger than our team effort. I am with AGIA in upholding integrity, accountability, and professionalism in this noble practice. Being in the government service, I vow to adhere to the unequivocal vision of shaping and continually maintaining a pool of highly competent and trustworthy internal auditors across the country.

More power, AGIA! God bless us all.

WENDEL E. AVISADO
Secretary
On behalf of the Civil Service Commission, I extend my warmest greetings to the officers and members of the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA). I salute all the government internal auditors for their continued vigilance in protecting ethics, integrity, and transparency in our collective pursuit of good governance.

I am confident that you will continue to persevere despite the adversities that will come your way. As government auditors, you ensure that the necessary processes are observed and followed. In this light, you are indeed servant-heroes, the Philippine bureaucracy’s lingkod bayani.

I also encourage all government internal auditors to commit unto strengthening your digital competence. This year’s theme, “AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency during Pandemic”, is a reminder to welcome digital transformation in our systems, procedures, and services. Let us all strive to deliver services that are simpler, more accessible, and more citizen-centric by taking advantage of digital platforms and tools available through the Internet of Things. I hope that through this year’s national convention, you will be able to recognize the advantages of being able to transact across multiple channels, lower service costs, and easier processes toward a digital-enabled governance and citizen engagement.

Let us continue to be partners as we journey towards a “better normal”; to have a civil service system that is resilient and productive as we collectively face challenges in the midst of rising global standards of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Congratulations to AGIA, and mabuhay!

ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA
Chairperson
On behalf of the Commission on Audit (COA), I extend my warmest felicitations to the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA), Inc. on the occasion of its 61st year of existence and first Virtual Annual National Convention.

COA is one with you in this year’s theme “AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency during Pandemic.” The COVID-19 pandemic has created a challenge for the government, thrusting us into managing competing priorities for the protection of both our stakeholders and our personnel. AGIA is one of our partners in achieving accountable and progressive adaptation of auditing in the new normal and remains steadfast in its mission to provide continuing professional development.

With AGIA transitioning to the digital medium such as web-based seminars, and creating new forums to reach out to members, our continuous collaboration with AGIA will help us work in more innovative ways to adjust in this time of pandemic and continue to provide good governance. AGIA’s free webinars are very helpful for auditors in order to be more prepared in conducting audits. An example is the successful hosting of AGIA’s 6th Forum for Heads of Internal Audit Service / Office in the Public Sector last 28 August 2020 with COA Commissioner Roland C. Pondoc as one of the guest speakers. As the Commissioner emphasized, COA shall continue maintaining public financial discipline and ensuring transparency and accountability during the COVID-19 pandemic without unnecessarily impeding government efforts to address the crisis.

I fervently wish for the AGIA’s continued success in adapting to the new normal with its mission to actively advocate for a high degree of discipline, accountability, integrity and professionalism among all its members through continuing professional development and forging partnerships with stakeholders.

I wish you very meaningful discussions in your virtual convention. 
Mabuhay po kayong lahat!

ATTY. MICHAEL G. AGUINALDO
Chairperson
Warmest greetings!

Year 2020 is a momentous year for our country, for the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA) and for everyone.

Recognizing the need to continue fulfilling its mandate to best serve the interest of the Internal Auditors and those performing allied functions in the Public Sector, AGIA has exerted all its efforts to resume its operations which was temporarily suspended at the onset of the pandemic. Impressively, AGIA was able to maintain its momentum. The journey was not easy but our commitment to provide continuous training and professional development made the historical milestone possible. The trust given to us strengthen our resolve to hold on as the partner of the government in advocating good governance.

This year’s theme “AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resilience during Pandemic” indeed reflects AGIANS in these challenging times. We encourage everyone in auditing practice and our fellow public servants in charge in safeguarding resources of the government to continue our commitment towards good governance. We should be a pillar to every organization and the government as a whole. Moving forward, whatever the future holds, take every situation as an opportunity to further our resiliency and agility to a value adding function.

It is now the 61st year of AGIA and despite what is happening to the world right now, we still continue to hold this convention. We may not be together physically but we are with you virtually and rest assured that we have lined up the best resource speakers for you. I commend my fellow Board of Directors and the Staff of AGIA for their unyielding determination to pursue this activity and the participants as well, who always serve as our inspiration and motivation.

Once again, welcome and thank you for joining us. God bless and Mabuhay ang AGIANS!

HIDELIZ MARIE A. LARANANG
AGIA President
Our warmest greetings to the members of AGIA and fellow public servants.

This year is our 61st Annual Convention with the theme “Fostering Good Governance and Resilience During Pandemic” which, for the first time ever, will be held virtually. No one could have predicted the challenges that 2020 has brought to us and it turns out that our convention theme is even more timely now. This convention carries our commitment to inspire our members, highlighting the need for continuous professional development, management of psycho-social concerns, business continuity management, corporate performance, strengthening internal control with government strategies and programs, and more others.

With our vision of a prestigious professional organization of highly competent and trustworthy Internal Auditors, AGIA will remain steadfast in its mission to provide continuing professional development to its members and strengthen the connection with government internal auditors.

We will continue our tradition of excellence with this year’s virtual format and of course, we welcome your feedback on this 2020 convention - including how we might combine some virtual arrangement with our live convention once the pandemic is behind us.

Please allow me to thank you all and more power to all of us!

LILIBETH DC. GOBOLE
AGIA Convention Chairperson
Welcome my colleagues in the government, my warmest greetings to all members and participants of the Association of Government Internal Auditors (AGIA) on its 2020 Annual Convention during its 61st year.

With the blessings of our God Almighty we are lucky to have our convention. Year 2020 is indeed a year with a lot of challenges for many. We were caught off guard by the emergence of Coronavirus Disease 2019 across the globe. We were paused from our daily routines for decades. We are now getting accustomed to the New Normal. But we will not be stopped by this pandemic.

Today, in the most uncertain period, with our face masks on and continuous practice of social distancing, in the 2020 Annual Convention of AGIA, we rise above these changes, impediments and challenges brought about this current pandemic. AGIA remains true in promoting integrity, accountability and professionalism among its members by providing continuing professional development and forging partnership with stakeholders amidst the pandemic.

With this year’s theme, “AGIA, Fostering Good Governance and Resiliency during Pandemic”, we strive to protect and sustain the culture of integrity, transparency and accountability as well as adjust and cope with the present situation. Resilient as public servants, we, internal auditors, play an important role as we ensure that resources are managed properly and all funds are channeled towards the accomplishment of our respective institutions’ mandate and objectives. This pandemic may pose new challenges along the way but let us always face them with our innovative ways.

We must always pursue measures in sustaining our advocacy towards good governance.

May this activity be of great help to nurture internal auditors who are not just exemplars of competence and dedication but also adaptable and flexible public servants committed always to the advancement of our country and progress of every Filipino.

May our God Almighty provide us with his grace, guidance and protection. Let us all stay safe and healthy.

EDITHA D. MORALES
AGIA Convention Co-Chair