Professional Practices
Level 2 – Infrastructure
Audit Plan Based on Management/Stakeholder Priorities

Purpose — To develop periodic (annual or multiyear) plans for which audits and/or other services will be provided, based on consultations with management and/or other stakeholders.

Essential Activities
- Identify all auditable entities in the organization and document the audit universe.
- In collaboration with senior management and/or other stakeholders, determine the time period to be covered by the plan (i.e., annual, multiyear, or a combination).
- Through consultations with senior management and/or other stakeholders (e.g., senior government officials or external auditor), identify the areas/issues that are considered as priorities to be addressed by the IA activity.
- Identify the audit engagements, including cyclical audits, to be included in the plan and what other services the IA activity will be providing to the organization.
- Determine the indicative audit objectives and scope for each audit engagement and those for any other services, if applicable.
- Determine the overall resources required (human, financial, material) to accomplish the plan by including the sum of resources for each audit engagement, other services to be provided, and any additional resources that may be required to respond to other management and/or stakeholders priorities that might arise during the period covered by the plan.
- Determine the mix of human-resource capabilities required to accomplish the plan (from within the IA activity or through co-sourcing or outsourcing).
- Obtain senior management's and/or the board's approval of the plan and the resources required to implement the plan.

Outputs
- A periodic (annual or multiyear) internal audit and services plan based on priorities identified by senior management within the organization and/or other key stakeholders.

Outcomes
- Understanding by the IA activity of management's and/or other stakeholders' priorities.
- Opportunities identified by the IA activity to improve organizational objectives and operations.

Institutionalizing Practice Examples
- Visible commitment and support through senior management action to identify the areas/issues that are considered as priorities to be addressed by the IA activity, and approval of the periodic internal audit plan along with the resources required to implement the plan.
- Formal internal audit planning process.
- Documented audit universe.