

12 June 2018

To: Members of IIA–Kenya
RE: 16th Annual Conference Welcome

Dear Esteemed Delegates,

It gives me great pleasure as the 2018-19 Global Chairman of The IIA to send this welcoming message to all of you attending IIA–Kenya’s 16th Annual Conference. Your theme, “Transforming Internal Audit to Drive Value,” captures perfectly the challenges and opportunities ahead for the internal audit profession. Though I cannot be there in person, I am honored to contribute in this small way to what I know will be an amazing learning and networking experience over the course of these next three days.

Much has changed in the world of internal auditing in the 16 years since IIA–Kenya’s inception. I think we can all agree that the world needs internal audit’s services now more than ever. Indeed, internal audit’s portfolio of services has expanded rapidly during just the past decade to include regulatory compliance, cyber risks, non-financial reporting, and much more.

This is one of the reasons I am delighted to see that your conference line-up includes such a broad range of topics addressing a need we all recognize – and that is transforming the profession so that we remain the reliable, relevant, and trusted advisors we seek to be. I am pleased to note that sessions focused on elements of the IPPF tie in nicely with my chairman’s theme – “Emphasize the Basics. Elevate the Standards.”

Disruptions in today’s world are bigger and are coming at us faster. This requires responses that are quicker and more fluid. Internal audit is vulnerable in such an environment – vulnerable to complacency, insignificance, or even worse, to being replaced. Transforming internal audit is truly what will drive value, now and in the future.

Your conference sessions on enterprise risk management, corporate culture, fraud, public-sector auditing, and communicating audit results and providing insights that spur action, among others, are sure to shed light on the challenges before us all. Let us not forget, though, that there are also opportunities to be found in transformation. And I find it reassuring that IIA–Kenya, along with IIA affiliates around the world, are intent on demonstrating the agility and innovation required for internal auditors everywhere to keep their seats at the table.

I wish you much success with your conference. And I look forward to meeting many of you during my travels as Global Chairman.

Best regards,



Naohiro Mouri, CIA
2018-19 Global Chairman of the Board