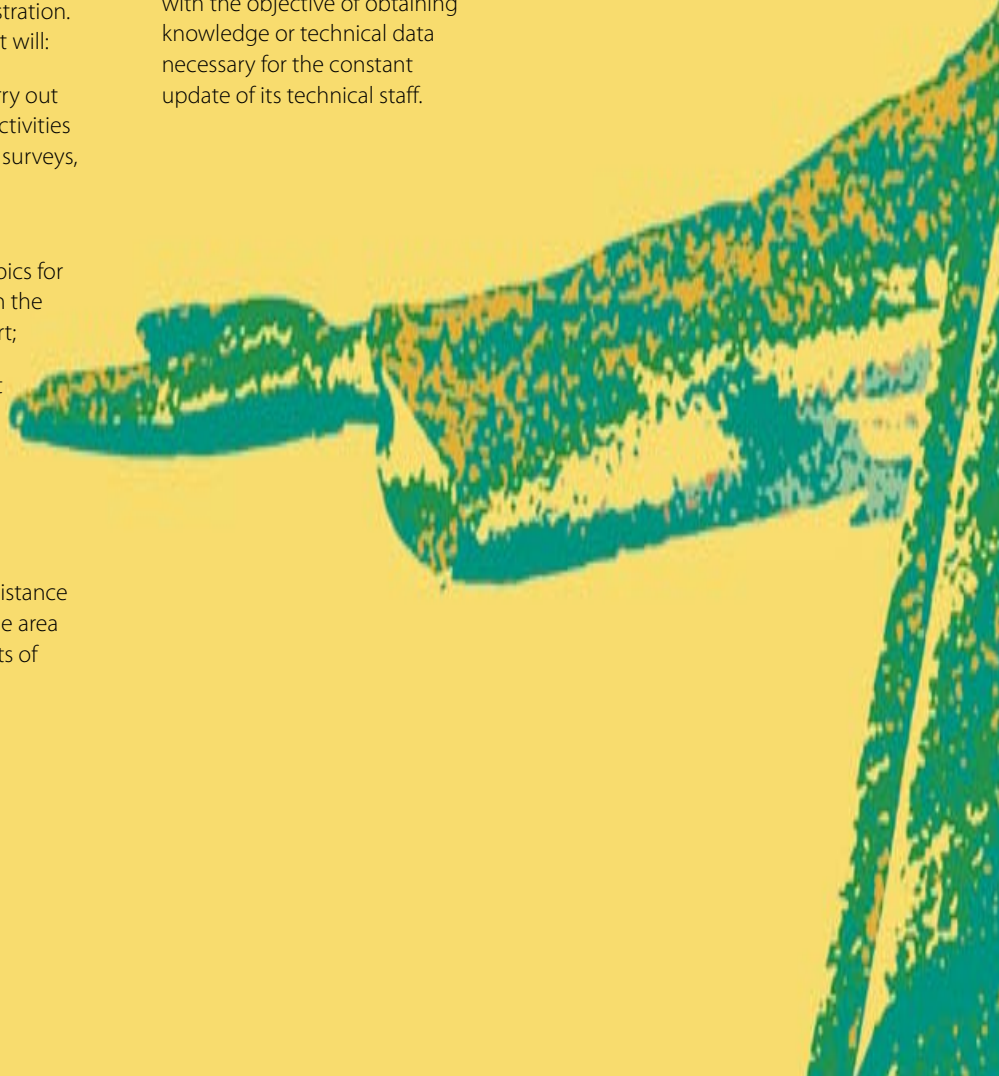# Brazilian u

BY CLAUDIO SOUZA CASTELLO BRANCO – SECRETARY OF IT AUDITING

## News from Tribunal de Contas da União (SAI Brazil)

As part of the policy of the Brazilian Court of Audit (TCU) to further the development of IT Audit and considering that this is an area with an increasing demand both in our country and in TCU, our Supreme Audit Institution created, in August 2006, a special technical unit in charge of IT external control – the Information Technology Auditing Secretariat.

The IT Auditing Secretariat (Sefti) is in charge of overseeing the management and use of IT resources of the Federal Public Administration. Among its various activities, it will:

■ plan, co-ordinate and carry out oversight or evaluation activities by means of monitoring, surveys, inspections or audits;

■ identify, in its area of specialisation, priority topics for audits, in conformity with the strategic plan of the Court;

■ oversee the enforcement of Court decisions or recommendations in the agencies or institutions in charge of activities in the IT field;

■ provide auditors with assistance in audits carried out in the area of IT by the technical units of the Court;

■ research, develop or disseminate methods, techniques and standards for audit works in the area of IT, together with the Associate Audit Secretariat of the Court;

■ produce guidelines and other documents with the purpose of orienting the performance of agents that are subject to TCU's oversight; and

■ promote exchange with public sector agencies and institutions with the objective of obtaining knowledge or technical data necessary for the constant update of its technical staff.

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# Brazilia update

BY DANIEL DIAS PEREIRA
– TCU IT AUDITOR

## Training in information technology audit within OLACEFS

The use of information technology in the various OLACEFS member countries is at different stages of development. In many countries, IT is intensively used by governmental agencies, with immediate repercussions on the performance of the Supreme Audit Institution – SAI. This increasing use of Information Technology by governments has led the SAIs to seek training in Information Technology Audit.
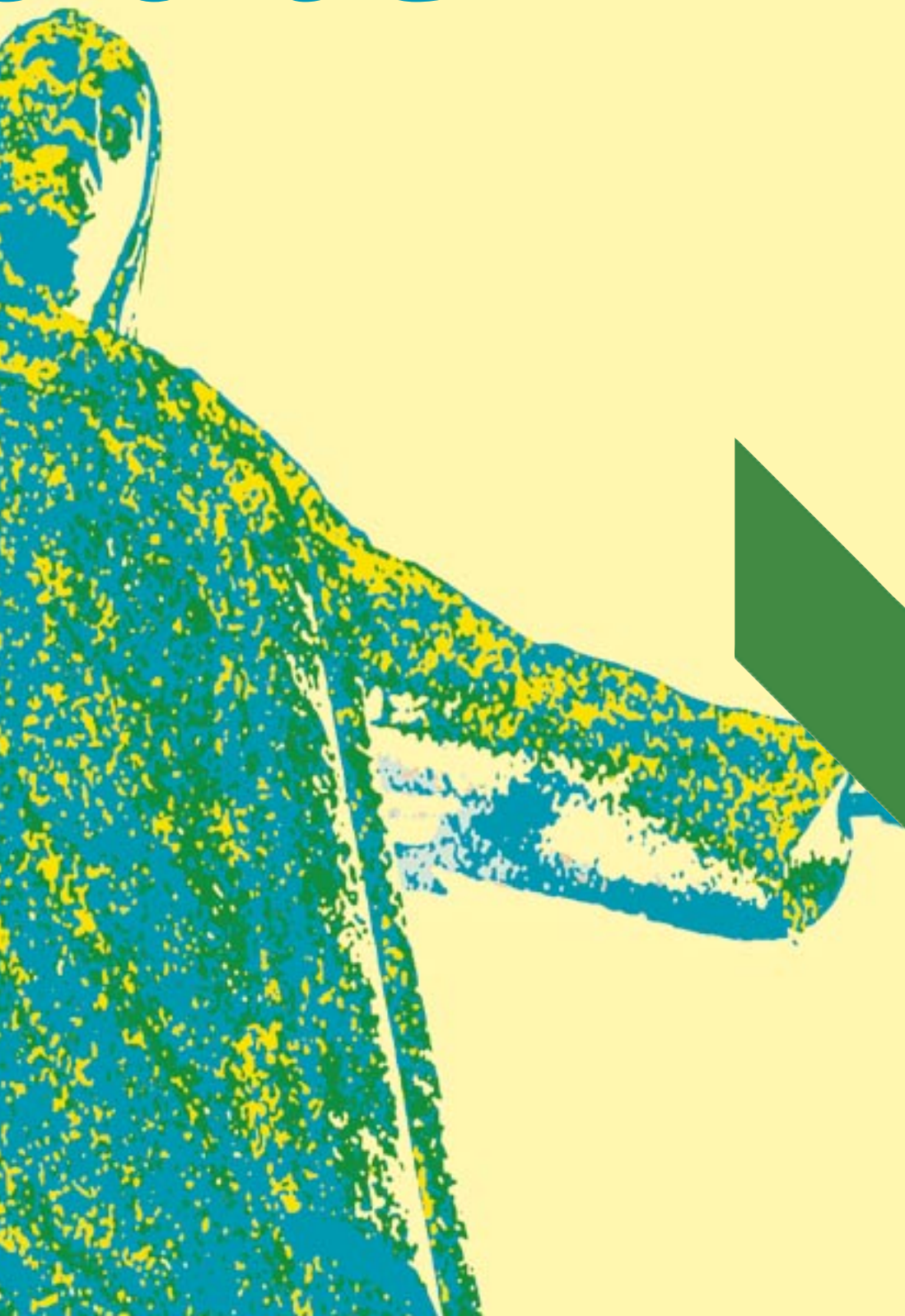
Back in the 1990s, SAI Chile organised and held the first training courses. In 1998 SAI Brazil used the IT Audit training material published by INTOSAI to deliver System Audit courses to its own staff, staff of government agencies, and staff from other Latin American SAIs.

In 2003, following an initiative from the Regional Training Committee (RTC) of OLACEFS, an agreement was signed between OLACEFS, IDB and IDI – INTOSAI to deliver training courses in Information Technology Audit to member countries. Two courses were held in 2004, designed to train representatives of each SAI.

One, in Lima, Peru, was attended by representatives of South American and of all OLACEFS member countries; and another one in San Jose, Costa Rica, which was designed for countries of Central America and the Caribbean. Representatives of all countries of that region, except for Mexico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, attended the course. In the two courses, over 60 civil servants were trained. They also received training and materials to replicate the courses in their own countries.

In 2005 and 2006, at the request of the RTC of OLACEFS, SAI Chile delivered a training course in Information Technology Audit both to civil servants of the government of that country and also various representatives of OLACEFS member countries. SAI Brazil delivered a course in 2006 that was attended by civil servants of the Brazilian Government and by four representatives of Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau, which are members of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP).

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IT governance