



A PRESIDENTE

Madame President of the Tribunal de Cuentas de España, dear friend
Enriqueta Chicano Jávega

Dear Colleagues and Distinguished Guests,

It is with great satisfaction that I also welcome you in this unique and inspiring meeting, which brings together women holding leadership positions in Supreme Audit Institutions.

I am confident that we will make the most of this opportunity to create a privileged space for reflection, exchange, and institutional cooperation, one that embodies our clear and steadfast commitment to informed debate and to recognizing the vital role of women in leading our institutions.

First and foremost, I wish to commend the Tribunal de Cuentas de España, our partner in this joint project, for initiating and carefully organizing of this event, as well as for the warm hospitality with which we all have been welcomed.

A PRESIDENTE

Allow me to share with you my memory of the first time I met Enriqueta Chicano. It was in Elvas, in December 2024. The purpose of that meeting was to promote this event, and when Enriqueta invited me to co-organise it, I could not but accept.

This is why it is also a particular personal pleasure to be part of this initiative, which brings us together not merely as colleagues, but as women bearing responsibility in institutions that play a central role in upholding legality, transparency, good governance, and public accountability.

Indeed, in recent years, we have witnessed a growing presence of women in leadership positions within SAI, including in Europe. And this is a journey that, while still gradual, reflects a positive and encouraging trend.

This meeting will therefore provide us with a unique opportunity to share experiences, address challenges, and explore innovative solutions, while strengthening networks of cooperation and fostering mutual learning among leaders.

A PRESIDENTE

I do believe that through these dialogues, we consolidate inclusive leadership practices, promote professional excellence, and inspire new generations to take on responsibilities within our institutions.

And that moments such as this remind us that women's leadership is not merely a matter of representation, but a decisive contribution to institutional strengthening, transparency, and public trust across all national contexts.

In this regard, allow me to note that Portugal, for the first time, has a woman serving as President of its SAI – a milestone and a responsibility that greatly honours me, reflecting institutional confidence and a path of openness that we must continue to nurture.

Within the framework of the Organization of SAI of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (OISC-CPLP), significant initiatives have been developed to promote women's leadership.

A PRESIDENTE

Among them, the “Women in Leadership” program, spearheaded by the Federal Court of Accounts of Brazil (Tribunal de Contas da União – TCU), has facilitated the exchange of experiences and the strengthening of the capacities of female leaders across Lusophone SAI.

These initiatives illustrate how international cooperation can serve as an effective instrument for institutional strengthening and the recognition of female talent.

May this meeting further reinforce our commitment to promoting gender equality at all levels within our institutions.

Allow me to remind you that women’s leadership in SAI can also serve as a key factor in advancing gender equality more broadly, through closer and more structured dialogue with citizens and civil society organizations actively engaged in this field across diverse national contexts.



A PRESIDENTE

I am convinced that such interaction – fostering dialogue and engagement – will strengthen the legitimacy, public trust, and social relevance of our institutions in the eyes of the communities we serve.

I therefore hope that the reflections we share today, and the commitments we make here, will resonate far beyond this chamber, inspiring concrete and lasting actions that contribute to a fairer, more equitable, and more inclusive society.

Thank you very much.