



**For immediate publication**

Press release

## Swiss Federal Audit Office's priorities for 2017

Bern, 25.1.2017 – The Finance Delegation, the Control Delegation and the Federal Council have acknowledged the 2017 annual programme of the Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO). This programme is drawn up independently by the SFAO and consists of almost 170 audits. Like in 2016, some seventy of these audits will be published. By doing so, the SFAO is continuing its efforts for greater transparency.

Every year, the SFAO draws up its audit programme independently. It is the result of explorations and risk analyses that allow the institution's resources to be prioritised as fairly as possible. It also includes requests from the Federal Council and Parliament, such as the supervision of key ICT projects or, this year, the governance of the unemployment insurance fund.

The teams at the SFAO will make on-site visits to assess the effectiveness of the network of Swiss representations abroad or the viability of measures to combat fine particles at the Federal Office for the Environment. The audits will take up subjects such as the subsidies of the Federal Office of Public Health, the building of asylum-seeker reception centres, the effectiveness of Federal Administration evaluations or the support measures for agricultural biogas facilities. The governance of the export controls of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs will be on the agenda, as well as the compliance measures of RUAG. Finally, the SFAO will study the measures of the Federal Tax Administration to implement the exchange of tax information.

This year, with the support of the departments' general secretariats, the SFAO will be very vigilant with regard to the monitoring and implementation of its key recommendations. The Federal Council should pay keen attention to these recommendations in accordance with the will of Parliament. The SFAO has been granted a budget of CHF 27.1 million by the Federal Assembly. In 2017, 110 employees will work at the SFAO.

### Further details

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*The SFAO's annual programme for 2017 is available on its website: [www.sfao.admin.ch](http://www.sfao.admin.ch)*