



The Office of the Auditor General's (OAG) is the "watchdog" of public spending in the Cayman Islands. It is led by the Auditor General whose role and responsibilities are set out in the Cayman Islands Constitution and the Public Management and Finance Law. The OAG carries out its duties on behalf of the Legislative Assembly and ultimately the people of the Cayman Islands.

By reporting the results of our audits to the Legislative Assembly, we help hold government and public bodies to account for the way they use public money, thereby safeguarding the interests of citizens. In addition, our work aims to help public service managers improve performance and service delivery.

For further information please contact the Office of the Auditor General at 244-3211 or at auditorgeneral@oag.gov.ky



GOOD GOVERNANCE: KEY ATTRIBUTES

Information Series

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“In the community of nations, governance is considered “good” and “democratic” to the degree in which a country’s institutions and processes are transparent. Its institutions refer to such bodies as parliament and its various ministries. Its processes include such key activities as elections and legal procedures, which must be seen to be free of corruption and accountable to the people. A country’s success in achieving this standard has become a key measure of its credibility and respect in the world. The greatest threats to good governance come from corruption, violence and poverty, all of which undermine transparency, security, participation and fundamental freedoms.”

UN Global Issues website

Governance is a broad concept covering all aspects of the way a country is governed, including its economic policies and regulatory framework, as well as adherence to the rule of law. Good Governance is clearly linked to positive outcomes for citizens, including higher per capita income, higher literacy and lower infant mortality. It assures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.

Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan noted that “good governance is perhaps the single most important factor in eradicating poverty and promoting development”.

Key Attributes of Good Governance



Whilst there is no one over-arching definition of what good governance for countries and government is, there is consensus about the major attributes that make for well governed countries and public services.

Good governance has 8 major attributes. It is participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follows the rule of law.

Good governance is responsive to the present and future needs of the organization, exercises prudence in policy-setting and decision-making, and that the best interests of all stakeholders are taken into account.