SMART INTERACTIVE TALK (SIT)

INTERNAL AUDIT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Practical Tips from CAEs (1)

- ☐ Make sure everybody has a laptop
- ☐ Set up procedures for working from home and train people
- ☐ Set up a remote communication plan on a regular basis
- ☐ Get sufficient VPN access
- ☐ Get all your auditors back at home
- ☐ Keep social distance for people still in the office
- ☐ Be involved in the Crisis Management calls (C-suite, Crisis Committee…)
- ☐ Define the internal audit Business Continuity Plan arrangements
- ☐ Impact on the Audit Plan

# Practical Tips from CAEs (2)

- ☐ Perform ongoing audits remotely if possible

- ☐ Postpone the ongoing audits in areas that are under stress : flexible audit plan

- ☐ Assess the new audit assignments based on current priorities

- ☐ Extend due dates for corrective actions based on new risks/priorities

- ☐ Do not stress auditees with "unsatisfactory" reports in keys areas

- ☐ Help the business (1st & 2d line of defense) when possible and needed

- ☐ Safety of staff

- ☐ Effectiveness of Business Continuity Plan arrangements

- ☐ Increase of cyber risk and IT security
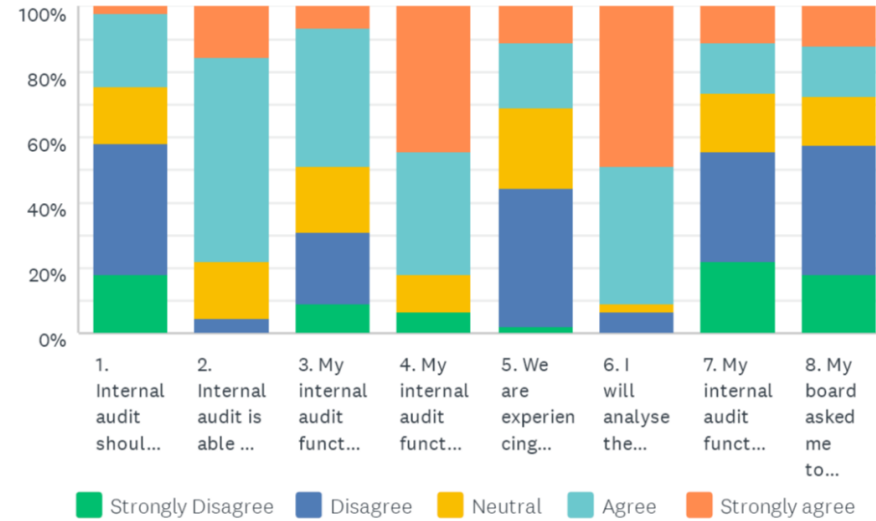
Survey in Belgium and the Netherlands

Survey results (NL+BE = 119)

NL=74
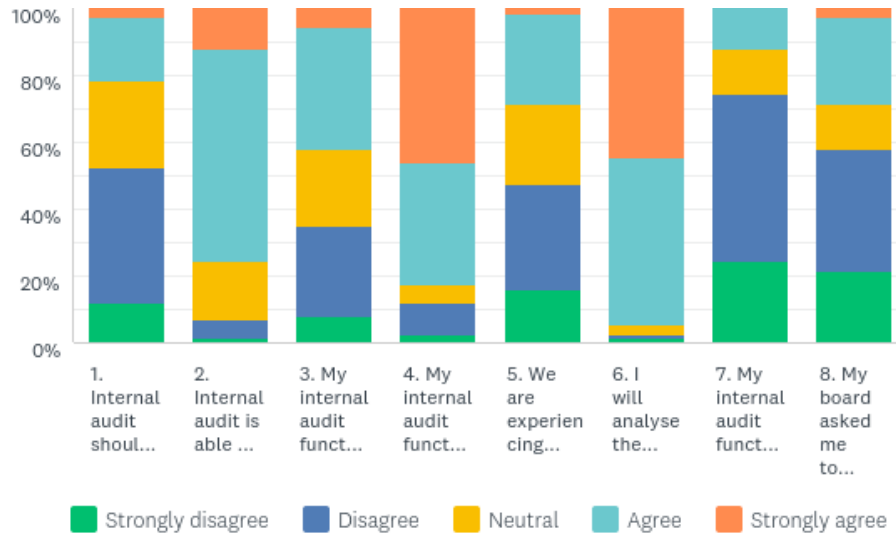
BE=45

1. Internal Audit should stay out of the way during a crisis.
2. Internal Audit is able to add value to the crisis management.
3. My internal audit function will perform an audit on the crisis preparedness and management.
4. My internal audit function is/was fully prepared for remote working.
5. We are experiencing substantial push back from the auditees as a result of the crisis.
6. I will analyse the impact on the audit plan and resources, adjust the plan and report to the Board on it.
7. My internal audit function stopped performing audits to be able to assist the business get through the crisis.
8. My board asked me to support with operational issues.
9. During this extended teleworking, I keep staff morale high by: "........................"