

To: IAESB
From: Chris Austin
 Chair, International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB)

International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB) – 2018Q1 Activity Report

Major Achievements	
Guidance	February: Information and Communications Technology Literature Review
Stakeholder Engagement	February: IAESB Comment Letter, Monitoring Group Consultation – Strengthening the Governance and Oversight of the International Audit-Related Standard-Setting Boards in the Public Interest . February: IAESB CAG Comment Letter, Monitoring Group Consultation IAESB Chair briefed the South Asian Federation of Accountants' Board in Nepal.
Environmental Issues	
<p>We continue to reach out to stakeholders about Information and Communication Technology (ICT), including the IFAC's Technology Advisory Group, the PAIB Committee, the Financial Executives Institute and the Global Accounting Alliance's Education Directors. This will inform the Board's project on ICT. The Board is also monitoring the IAASB's work on enhancing audit quality (ISQC 1 and ISA 220 revisions), and the work of the International Integrated Reporting Council; these contacts may identify the need for new competences and learning outcomes.</p>	
Key Project and Activity Updates	
<p>The IAESB met on 18-20 April in Nairobi and progressed the 2017-2018 Work Programme as follows:</p> <p>Standards Development Projects and Initiatives</p> <p><u><i>Revision of IES 7, Continuing Professional Development</i></u></p> <p>After a full discussion, we decided to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) retain the input-based, output-based, or both approaches for CPD measurement, and to include examples in the Explanatory Material; (ii) explain what are acceptable CPD learning and development activities and include examples; and (iii) describe a CPD framework. <p>The task force will prepare a final draft of IES 7 revised, with a view to approval in July; and a first set of support material, for initial discussion in July and approval in October. Both products would be published in late 2018.</p> <p><u><i>Information & Communications Technology</i></u></p>	

We agreed some refinements to the five “ICT elements”, against which we can evaluate the relevancy and currency of the extant learning outcomes. The task force will continue to review other SSBs’ standards to determine the underlying expectations of ICT skills for professional accountants; and will consult public sector entities, regulators, and non-accounting stakeholders. The task force will report to the July Board on potential further standards development work, to be incorporated in the refreshed Work Programme to 2020.

Professional Scepticism

We considered the draft IESBA Consultation paper, and broadly endorsed the content: no fatal flaws; important to signal that “professional scepticism” applies to professional accountants. After a full discussion, we concluded that the Chair would submit a comment letter on the IESBA exposure draft, reflecting IAESB interests.

We endorsed the task force’s initiatives on thought leadership; gap analysis of competence areas and learning outcomes in the IESs; and proposal to seek good practice examples from selected universities and academic networks. The task force will prepare an Issues paper for the July Board covering the findings of the gap analysis and any recommendations for additional standards development activities.

Professional Scepticism – Behavioural Competence

We endorsed the task force’s proposal to complete a gap analysis of the extant IESs compared to the benchmark materials already assembled. We concluded that this work be merged with that of the ICT and professional scepticism task forces.

Public Sector Accounting, Reporting, and Assurance

We agreed that the task force should complete its analysis and submit a project proposal to the July IAESB.

Implementation Support

We broadly agreed the Working Group’s proposed drafting and presentation guidelines, and concluded that they be integrated with those on Stakeholder Engagement and Communications. The Working Group will prepare recommendations for July on what to do with extant support material (revise, replace, withdraw).

Other Discussion Items

Stakeholders Engagement and Communications

We agreed the task force’s proposal for a Communications and Engagement Plan, to provide structure, prioritisation criteria, and key performance indicators. The task force will bring a draft plan to the July meeting.

IAESB Work Programme refreshed to 2021

The IAESB Steering Committee will refine the proposed Work Programme for 2019-21 (extended from 2017-18, and will bring a draft proposal for discussion at the July IAESB meeting.

Post Effective Date Implementation Review

The Compliance Advisory Panel’s *International Standards: 2017 Global Status Report* was seen as an important source for the Post Effective Date Implementation Review planned for the latter part of the IAESB Strategy period (to 2023). Joe Bryson (Director, Quality & Development) is due to

present to the July IAESB about the Global Status Report and will share initial ideas for the PEDIR methodology.

Other Matters

IAESB & IAESB CAG Meetings

- The IAESB is scheduled to meet in New York, USA on 11-12 July and then 24-26 October, 2018.
- The IAESB CAG is also scheduled to meet in New York, USA on 13-14 September, 2018.

IAESB Outreach Activities for the Fourth Quarter of 2017

IAESB representatives participated in, or presented at, the following events:

October 2017

- Teleconference with IMCP leadership on Mexico Meetings (Tapia, Meljem, Matzke, McPeak, Tavares);
- Teleconference with GAA Education Directors – Professional Scepticism Survey (Simko);
- *Professional Scepticism and IAESB Update*, Forum of Firms meeting, New York, USA (Simko);
- *Leadership and Continuing Professional Education*, IMCP Congress, Leon, Mexico (Bowman, McPeak);
- *IAESB Update*. Indiana CPA Society, Indianapolis, USA (Slezak);
- Roundtables on Information and Communications Technology, Mexico City, Mexico (Matzke, Meljem, Owens);
- IMCP Accounting Education Commission, Mexico City, Mexico (Njuguna, Tapia, and Simko);
- IMCP Aspiring Professional Accountants, Mexico City, Mexico (Tapia, Chalmers, Jakubowski);

November 2017

- *Implementation Challenges. Colegio de Contadores Públicos de México (CCPM) – IAESB Accountancy Education Forum*, Mexico City, Mexico (Austin, Vitale, Simko, St. Amant, Tapia, Meljem);
- *IAESB Update*, November IFAC Council meeting, Brussels, Belgium (Gunn);
- Teleconference with J. Wickett, Consultant on CPA Canada Output-based CPD project (McPeak);

December 2017

- December 2017 PIOB meeting (Austin, Vitale; Bowman and Gunn by teleconference).