

IFAC SMP COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Vienna, Austria, May 29-30, 2017

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This IFAC Small and Medium Practices (SMP) Committee meeting summary is for information purposes only. Decisions reported are tentative and reflect only the current status of discussions on projects which might change after further SMP Committee deliberation.

Input to the IAASB Standard Setting

The Committee noted and provided comments on a joint presentation by Prof. Arnold Schilder, Chairman IAASB and Beverly Bahlmann, Deputy Director IAASB, which covered the recently issued Exposure Draft on [ISA 540 \(Revised\)](#), *Auditing Accounting Estimates and Related Disclosures*, further development in the Board's SMP initiatives after the Paris conference in January 2017 and an update on the [ISA 315 \(Revised\) project](#).

World Bank's PAO and SMP Support

The Committee noted and provided comments on two presentations from the World Bank's Centre for Financial Reporting Reform (CFRR). The first covered their SMP capacity development programs and the second, SME access to finance and financial information as a catalyst for lending.

Task Force Meetings

The Committee split into separate task force meetings, which included the Implementation Guidance Task Force (IGTF), Small Business Support Task Force (SBSTF), Ethics Task Force (ETF), and the IAASB Rapid Response Task Force (IRRTF). Members provided input on the following on-going projects: the second draft of Module 5 of the Practice Management Guide on Leveraging Technology, an article series on opportunities and challenges arising from the [Global SMP Survey for 2016](#), the IESBA's strategy survey and Safeguards Phase II project focusing on the provision of recruiting services, a publication on Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) engagements, and an article on the new and revised Auditor Reporting standards. Input was also provided on the IAASB's Exposure Draft on [ISA 540 \(Revised\)](#) and the IESBA's Exposure Draft on [Professional Skepticism](#).

IFAC President – Rachel Grimes

The Committee had the opportunity to interact with the newly elected President of IFAC Rachel Grimes. This focused on the impact of technology on the accountancy profession and the independent standard-setting boards.

IFAC SMP-SME Work Plan 2017

The Committee was updated with the activities undertaken on 2017 SMP-SME Work Plan. The activities outlined in the Work Plan are consistent with the [IFAC Strategic Plan for 2016-2018: *Charting the Future of the Global Profession*](#).



Input to the IESBA Standard Setting

The Committee noted and provided comments on a presentation by Ken Siong, Technical Director, IESBA. The presentation covered the recent and upcoming IESBA approvals and initiatives on professional skepticism, inducements and the IESBA future strategy and work plan 2019 - 2023.

Accountancy Europe

The Committee noted and provided comments on a presentation by Hilde Blomme, Deputy CEO of Accountancy Europe (AE) on their recent SMP/ SME activities. The presentation included, among other matters:

- AE's strategy and advocacy;
- Transparency and integrity, focusing on future SME Reporting as well as recent audit reform in Europe;
- The results from a survey of young accountants;
- Technology and digitization, including a PAO technology barometer and moving to the cloud; and
- SME/ SMP business succession issues.

Outreach Activities and Events

The Committee noted a list of recent presentations and outreach activities undertaken by members and staff. There was also a short discussion on the possible date for the third meeting in 2018 with the first two having been tentatively fixed on 19-20 February and 25-26 June of 2018.

Next Meeting

The next SMP Committee meeting is scheduled for October 23-24, 2017 in New York, USA.