

Meeting: IAASB
Meeting Location: New York
Meeting Dates: December 7–11, 2015

Agenda Item 7

Professional Skepticism Working Group (PSWG)

Objectives of Agenda Item

1. To receive a presentation titled, *State of Art Research Related to Auditor Professional Skepticism (2013–2015)*.

PSWG

2. The PSWG includes representatives from the IAASB, the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA), and the International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB) and is comprised of the following members:
 - Annette Köhler, WG Chair, IAASB Member
 - Susan Jones, IAASB Technical Advisor
 - Richard Fleck, IESBA Member
 - Tone Sakshaug, IESBA Technical Advisor
 - Dave Simko, IAESB Member
 - Laine Katzin, IAESB Member

Activities Since the Last IAASB Discussion

3. Since the September 2015 meeting, the PSWG has held one teleconference to:
 - Consider and provide reactions to the draft summary of academic research on the topic of professional skepticism discussed in paragraph 4 below.
 - Receive an update on the discussions held at IAESB November 2015 meeting.
 - Provide input to the updated professional skepticism section of the draft, Invitation to Comment (ITC), *Enhancing Audit Quality in the Public Interest, A Focus on Professional Skepticism, Quality Control and Group Audits* (see **Agenda Item 2-C**).

Professional Skepticism Presentation – Summary of Synthesis of Academic Research

4. The IAASB will receive a presentation from Joe Brazel, North Carolina State University and Tammie Schaefer, University of Missouri-Kansas City. The presenters will summarize academic research

performed in the area of auditor professional skepticism from the 2013–2015 time period, the scope of which includes:

- A list and summary of research papers and other relevant publications relating to the exercise of professional skepticism in audits of historical information, categorized by significant themes identified; and
- A summary of the significant observations and conclusions drawn from the review of the academic research.

Material Presented

Agenda Item 7-A Presentation – State of Art Research Related to Auditor Professional Skepticism (2013–2015)

Agenda Item 7-B Executive Summary – State of Art Research Related to Auditor Professional Skepticism (2013–2015)

Matters for IAASB Consideration

1. The IAASB is asked to consider the presentation and consider what changes, if any, should be made to the Draft ITC (see **Agenda Item 2-C**).