



International Auditing
and Assurance
Standards Board

International
Ethics Standards
Board for Accountants®

529 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017
T + 1 (212) 286-9344 F +1 (212) 286-9570
www.iaasb.org & www.ethicsboard.org

Meeting: Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC)
Meeting Location: IAASB-IESBA Offices, 5th Floor, 529 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10017
Meeting Date: November 4-5, 2024

Day 1 – Monday November 4, 2024

8:30 – 8:45 **Welcome**

8:45 – 15:30 **Session 1: Dialogue with the Standard Setting Boards**

8:45 – 10:30 ***Part A: Audit and Ethics for Accountants***

SAC Members will be invited to engage on developing perspectives on non-sustainability matters that Members see as strategically pertinent for the attention of the IAASB and IESBA. Updates on the Boards' progress on their Work Plans since the April SAC meeting will provide context and the basis for discussion.

Session Format (105 minutes)

- Brief Presentation by the IESBA and IAASB Chairs on Developments
- Prompts, Viewpoints and Open Discussion

10:30 – 11:00 **Break**

11:00 – 12:30 ***Part B: Shaping Coordinated Adoption and Implementation Strategies for Maximum Use and Impact of New Sustainability Standards***

With new international assurance and ethics sustainability standards imminent, effective strategies and action to ensure timely acceptance and use are critical. Only through adoption and effective implementation can the objectives of the standards be achieved.

Discussion with SAC Members will focus on the major challenges and opportunities a coordinated adoption and implementation strategy needs to anticipate and address. Amongst other dimensions, discussion will cover the need for capacity building and potential avenues to approach it. Advice will be sought also on strategies when engaging at the local levels and where special attention may need to be focused.

Session Format (180 minutes)

- Brief Status Update on IAASB and IESBA Sustainability Standards
- Brief Overview Presentations of Strategies and Plans to support Adoption and Implementation and Focus of Coordination
- Prompts, Viewpoints and Open Discussion

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 15:00 ***Part B: Shaping Coordinated Adoption and Implementation Strategies for Maximum Use and Impact of New Sustainability Standards (Continued)***

15:00 – 15:30 **Break**



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15:30 – 17:30 **Session 2: Technology and Its Impact on Audit, Assurance and Ethics**

International auditing standards will pivot from neutrality to an active stance on how technology is addressed in an audit of financial statements. The immediate objective is to effect this change in the core standards that determine the basis of the auditor's opinion.

Discussion with SAC Members will include advice for both the IAASB and IESBA on achieving a balance between the view that innovation should not be stifled and that guardrails should be added to protect the public interest.

Among other dimensions, the SAC will be asked on its advice on the risk and opportunities of changing the standardized nature of the audit evidence gathering activities, including in the context of global use of the standards in developed and developing regions for audits of entities of all sizes. The SAC will also discuss views and expectations around auditor responsibilities given the importance of an effective system of internal control in an entity.

Session Format (Day 1 – 120 minutes; Beginning of Day 2 – 60 min)

- SSB Staff Presentation: Insights from Key Stakeholder Experiences and Perspectives
- Brief Update Presentations by the IESBA on its recent activities and the IAASB on its Technology Position, and Standard-Setting Objectives in Modernizing Auditor Evidence and Risk Response
- Prompts, Viewpoints and Open Discussion

Day 2 – Tuesday November 5, 2024

9:00 – 10:00 **Session 2: Technology and Its Impact on Audit, Assurance and Ethics (Continued)**

10:00 – 14:00 **Session 3: Future of Accounting Firms**

In April, SAC Members' advice added breadth and depth to the dimensions to weigh when seeking to strengthen firms' ethical culture and governance. Strategic choices now need to be made on priority focus areas and approaches. At the same time, the acceleration of Private Equity investments (PEI) in accounting firms introduces the need to explore how such structural changes in the industry may impact perspectives and actions.

10:00 – 11:00 **Part A: Charting a Part Forward on Firm Culture and Governance**

Discussion with the SAC will focus on advice on strategy for IESBA when approaching standard setting and non-standards initiatives on Firm Culture and Governance (FCG), including objectives, scope, work priorities and sequencing. The IESBA's Preliminary Report on FCG will be used as the basis for discussion.

11:00 – 11:15 **Break**

11:15 – 12:45 **Part B: Impact of Private Equity on Firms**

The SAC will be briefed on the current landscape characterizing PEI in firms. SAC Members will be invited to participate in break-out groups and share perspectives on potential general implications relative to public trust, audit quality and firm culture.

12:45 – 13:30 **Lunch**



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13:30 – 14:00 **Part B: Impact of Private Equity on Firms (continued)**

Report-back from SAC members on their breakout group discussions.

Session Formats (180 minutes)

- Presentation on FCG work stream update including proposed way forward
- IESBA and IFAC presentation on PEI Developments and Break-out Group Discussion
- Prompts, Viewpoints and Open Discussion

14:00 – 14:05 **Closing**

14:05 – 14:30 **Closed Session**

Other information

All times are presented in EST. The presentation times and length of discussion of topics may vary. Time allocated to each session includes breaks and lunch, when applicable.

A light breakfast and lunch will be served in the meeting area.

Closed Session

The closed session is for SAC members, SSB Chairs and Staff. No public observers are allowed in this session.

IESBA Members

Chair: Figueiredo Dias

Vice-Chair: Endsley

IESBA Staff

Program and Senior Director: Siong

Project Staff: Biek, Kwan, Leal, Leung, Reid, Sramko, Vijian, Bernard, Viljoen

IAASB Members

Chair: Seidenstein

IAASB Staff

Program and Technical Director: Botha

Project Staff: Baumgaertener Dutang, Diu, Espinal-Rae, Giardina, Grayston, Mansour, Montgomery, Raiche, Reinhardt, Shukarova Savovska, Talatala, van den Hout, Yoshimura, Zhang

PIOB Observer

Robert Buchanan