

Meeting: Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC)

Meeting Location: Former IAASB-IESBA Offices
5th Floor, 529 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10017

Meeting Date: October 20-21, 2026

Day 1 – Tuesday October 20, 2026

9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome**

9:15 – 11:15 **Session 1: Open Dialogue with the Standard Setting Board (SSB) Chairs**

The session provides the opportunity for the SAC to be brought up to speed on IAASB and IESBA developments since the last meeting, and to engage with the SSB Chairs on matters to which they are giving particular attention or reflection. The session also invites SAC members to raise for discussion matters which are drawing significant attention or concern from their stakeholder constituencies and which may be useful for the SSBs and fellow SAC members to be aware of from their different perspectives.

Session Format (120 minutes)

- Address SAC Members' queries about the pre-read materials summarizing SSB priorities and developments since the last SAC meeting
- Reflect on and discuss selected leading issues from the IESBA and IAASB Chairs
- Matters SAC Members may wish to raise for discussion

11:15 – 11:45 **Break**

11:45 – 12:45 **Session 2: IESBA and IAASB Strategies and Work Plans (SWPs) 2028-2031**

The IESBA and IAASB have requested input from a wide range of stakeholders through a joint stakeholder survey regarding:

- IESBA's and IAASB's strategic positioning;
- Key environmental trends shaping the future of audit, assurance, ethics, and independence; and
- Opportunities for joint or parallel IESBA and IAASB action.

The survey closed in May 2026. At their respective September 2026 meetings, each SSB will discuss the survey results and reach preliminary conclusions on the key strategic insights generated from the survey and other input that will guide their strategy formulation for the 2028-2031 cycle.

At this session, the SSBs will share the survey results and other input as well as the key insights drawn from them and the key insights generated.

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To facilitate the discussion, SAC members will be split into breakout groups to reflect on the key insights and strategic drivers relevant to the SSBs—both those presented and any potential additional ones—and how the SSBs can most effectively translate those insights into action. At the end of the breakout discussion, each group will be invited to share their main conclusions.

SAC Members' perspectives will further inform IESBA's and IAASB's considerations as they develop their respective consultation papers for their SWPs. The approval of the consultation papers is targeted for no later than the first quarter of 2027.

Session Format (180 minutes)

- Brief introduction by IAASB and IESBA Staff of the survey results, main insights and strategic drivers, and key outcomes of the September 2026 SSB meetings
- Prompts, viewpoints and open discussion by SAC Members in breakout group format
- Brief report back from each breakout group

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch

13:45 – 15:45

Session 2: IESBA and IAASB Strategies and Work Plans (SWPs) 2028-2031 (continued)

15:45 – 16:15

Break

16:15 – 17:30

Session 3: Other Assurance Engagements

The IAASB is undertaking information-gathering activities to better understand the landscape of “other” subject matter-specific assurance engagements (i.e., other than sustainability assurance); specifically, the evolution of different types of engagements, including what is driving the demand, the nature of the engagements, the standards being used and who are performing these engagements. It also is important to focus on the potential global relevance of such engagements and the extent to which they are related to general-purpose external reporting of entities in indicating proximity to the IAASB's remit.

SAC Members will be invited to share their views on the evolution and possible global prioritization of different types of subject matter-specific assurance services to help inform the strategic choices of the IAASB in this area.

Session Format (75 minutes)

- Brief introduction by IAASB Staff
- Prompts, viewpoints and open discussion

18:00 – 19:30

Cocktail Reception

Day 2 – Wednesday October 21, 2026

8:45 – 10:30 **Session 4: Interrelationship Between Private Equity Investment in Firms and Firm Culture and Governance**

Private equity investment in accounting firms (PEI) and accounting firm culture and governance (FCG) are two priority projects currently underway at the IESBA. While these projects are being advanced through separate workstreams, it is essential to consider the connections between them and the ways in which developments in one area may influence the other.

PEI is growing in scale, complexity and significance across the accounting profession. It is a way for firms to access capital, thereby providing them with opportunities to innovate and expand capabilities. At the same time, PEI is transforming firms' ownership structures, business models, governance arrangements and strategic priorities. This session will explore the relationship between PEI and FCG, including with respect to ethical leadership, financial incentives, accountability, oversight and governance, and transparency.

SAC Members will be invited to share their views on how PEI may affect firms' ethical culture and governance, including the opportunities, incentives, tensions and pressures it may create, and how the IESBA might most effectively address the interconnected topics.

Developments in PEI and FCG and related standard-setting initiatives potentially interconnect with a number of other matters, in particular audit quality and ISQM 1. The session will include an opportunity to discuss such matters as appropriate.

Session Format (105 minutes)

- Brief introduction by IESBA Staff
- Prompts, viewpoints and open discussion

10:30 – 10:50 **Break**

10:50 – 12:35 **Session 5: Technology-Focused Modernization of Audit and Assurance Standards**

The IAASB has operationalized its strategic focus on technology-related topics by prioritizing work in certain areas to modernize its audit and assurance standards to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and responsive to an evolving environment, including rapid and significant technological change. This includes a focus on the need for the standards to remain principle-based, flexible and fit-for-purpose to accommodate technological change without inhibiting innovation.

SAC Members will be invited to share their views on selected matters being addressed in the following projects or workstreams to contribute to the IAASB's basis of information for making directional choices about work plan or standard-setting positions:

- **Audit Evidence and Risk Response Project.** In finalizing the [exposure drafts](#) that are out for public consultation through December 15, 2026, the IAASB has considered the broad impact of technology for the in-scope standards (i.e., the auditor's responses to assessed risks, obtaining and evaluating audit evidence, and use of analytical procedures). SAC members will be asked to

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reflect on the approach applied and selected prominent actions reflected in the proposals, that the IAASB believes support robust principles-based requirements that will assist in future proofing the standards.

- **IAASB Catalog of Technology-Related Matters.** [Version 3](#) of the Technology Catalog was published in July 2026. The Technology Catalog aims to provide a structured record of technology-related matters within the IAASB's remit that the IAASB is monitoring and considering, describes, at a point in time, the IAASB's preliminary direction on actions for addressing each matter, and promotes transparency to the IAASB's stakeholders. SAC members will be asked to reflect on the latest version of the Catalog and certain selected matters to help inform the IAASB's prioritizations and possible actions going forward.

Session Format (105 minutes)

- Brief introduction by IAASB Staff
- Prompts, viewpoints and open discussion

12:35 – 12:45 **Closing**

12:45 – 13:15 **Private Session**

13:15 – 14:00 **Lunch**

Other information

All times are presented in EST. The presentation times and the length of topic discussions may vary. A light breakfast and lunch will be served in the meeting area.

Private Session

The private session is for SAC Members, SSB Chairs and Staff. No public observers are allowed.