

27 March 2026

### **APESB marks two decades of setting ethical standards in the public interest**

To mark its 20th anniversary, APESB hosted a dinner event for key stakeholders in Sydney on 26 March 2026, featuring a keynote address by IESBA Chair Gabriela Figueiredo Dias titled "Global Vision, Local Leadership: Advancing Ethics Together."

Gabriela's keynote highlighted the link between global and local standard-setting, the enduring IESBA–APESB partnership, the geopolitical, economic and technological challenges faced by the profession, and the vital role of independent ethics standards-setting infrastructure and strong culture and governance in sustaining public trust in capital markets. Read the full speech on the IESBA website ([www.ethicsboard.org](http://www.ethicsboard.org)).

At the event, APESB also released a 20 Year Anniversary booklet which captures the Board's significant achievements over the past two decades, with a particular focus on the second decade.

Over this period, APESB has delivered a substantial and impactful program of work, both locally and internationally, strengthening the ethical and independence standards that underpin the accounting profession in Australia and globally. Among the key achievements is the introduction of the Australian Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance, including the Independence Standards in 2025, and the strengthening of standards in important areas such as technology (including AI), tax planning, quality management, and auditor independence.

The Board has also contributed to IESBA's global work program, particularly over the last 4 years, with the APESB CEO's role on IESBA projects such as Tax Planning, Sustainability, and Firm Culture and Governance.

The booklet also celebrates the people behind that work, and the many individuals who have contributed to APESB's journey.

The booklet is available on the APESB website ([www.apesb.org.au](http://www.apesb.org.au)).

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