

Meeting Highlights

23 SEPTEMBER 2022

1. Register of Interests

The Board noted Agenda Item 9 *Register of Interests*.

2. Proposed conforming amendments to APES 110 for Quality Management

The Board noted Agenda Item 10 *Proposed conforming amendments to APES 110 for Quality Management*.

The Board discussed the submissions received in relation to the exposure draft ED 02/22 *Proposed Quality Management-related Conforming Amendments to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)*.

The Board approved the issue of the amending standard *Quality Management-related Conforming Amendments to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)*.

3. Proposed revisions to APES 205 to address AASB projects

The Board noted Agenda Item 11 *Proposed revisions to APES 205 to address AASB projects*.

The Board discussed the submissions received on ED 03/22 *Proposed Standard: APES 205 Conformity with Accounting Standards*.

APESB Technical Staff advised the Board that the discussions with the AASB Technical Staff on the drafting of paragraph 6.2 and the footnote references to the applicable AASB Standards are ongoing and that the issue of the revised APES 205 should be deferred to allow for these discussions to be finalised.

However, Technical Staff requested the Board to consider the proposed amendment to change the term '*significant accounting policies*' to '*material accounting policies*'. The Board approved this change and agreed to consider the final position on paragraph 6.2 and approval of APES 205 out of session.

Meeting Highlights

23 SEPTEMBER 2022

4. Update on Sustainability

The Board noted Agenda Item 12 *Update on Sustainability*.

The Board considered the update on sustainability and discussed the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA's) project proposal on developing globally applicable ethics and independence standards for sustainability-related reporting. The IESBA are proposing to amend Part 4A (which address financial statement auditors) of the IESBA Code to address independence considerations for assurance practitioners. A project proposal will be presented and discussed at the IESBA's December 2022 meeting.

APESB will undertake further stakeholder engagement, including with other National Standards Setters, to inform the Board's views on the way forward for establishing ethical and independence standards for sustainability reporting and assurance in Australia.

The Board requested Technical Staff draft a letter to the IESBA outlining APESB's concerns with the IESBA's proposed approach to address the independence of sustainability assurance providers in the IESBA Code.

The Board approved the project proposal to review APESB's other pronouncements and to develop a guidance document to guide ethical considerations for sustainability-related issues.

5. International and other activities

The Board noted Agenda Item 13 *International and other activities*.

The Board expressed concern about the recent integrity issues identified in the profession.

6. Update on the IESBA Tax planning and related services project

The Board noted Agenda Item 14 *Update on the IESBA Tax Planning & Related Services Project*.

The Board considered the project update and noted the developments with the IESBA Taskforce on Tax Planning and Related Services.

Meeting Highlights

23 SEPTEMBER 2022

7. Proposed amendments to APESB Pronouncements for Quality Management conforming amendments

The Board noted Agenda Item 15 *Proposed amendments to APESB Pronouncements for Quality Management Conforming Amendments*.

The Board considered the draft exposure draft, which proposes amendments across five APESB pronouncements for conforming amendments relating to the reissue of APES 320 *Quality Management for Firms that provide Non-Assurance Services* and the AUASB quality management standards.

The Board approved the issue of the Exposure Draft of:

- APES 315 *Compilation of Financial Information*;
- APES 325 *Risk Management for Firms*;
- APES 345 *Reporting on Prospective Financial Information prepared in connection with a Public Document*;
- APES 350 *Participation by Members in Public Practice in Due Diligence Committees in connection with a Public Document*; and
- APES GN 31 *Professional and Ethical Considerations relating to Low Doc Offering Sign-offs*.

8. Project update on APES 215 Forensic Accounting Services

The Board noted Agenda Item 16 *Project Update on APES 215 Forensic Accounting Services*.

The Board considered the project update and discussed the project's progress, including the ongoing engagement with ASIC.

The Board agreed with the way forward proposed by Technical Staff, whereby an exposure draft will be presented at a future Board meeting after addressing ASIC's issues and any applicable feedback from the Technology Surveys.

Meeting Highlights

23 SEPTEMBER 2022

9. Review of APESB Due Process

The Board noted Agenda Item 17 *Review of APESB Due Process*.

The Board considered the proposed revisions to the APESB's *Due process and working procedures for the development and review of APESB pronouncements document*.

The Board approved the revised *Due process and working procedures for the development and review of APESB pronouncements document*.

The Board requested Technical Staff to conduct further research about the similar processes followed by other National Standards Setters with respect to changes to base international pronouncements and, if required, present any proposed revisions to the due process document at a future board meeting.

10. Proposed compilation of the Code of Ethics

The Board noted Agenda Item 18 *Proposed compilation of the Code of Ethics*.

The Board considered the draft Compiled APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (Compiled Code). In addition, the Board discussed the additional editorial amendments noted as part of the Technical Staff review.

The Board approved the inclusion of the editorial amendments in the Amending Standard *Quality Management-related Conforming Amendments to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)*.

The Board approved the release of a Compiled Code, without interactive features, that includes the five amending standards approved by the Board since November 2018.

11. Project update on the Technology Project

The Board noted Agenda Item 19 *Project update on Technology*.

The Board considered the project update and agreed with the way forward proposed by Technical Staff.

Meeting Highlights

23 SEPTEMBER 2022

12. Other Business

The Board received a request from an observer to consider extending the comment period for ED 05/22 *Proposed Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)*.

The Secretariat has now established a new comment deadline of 12 December 2022.