

Media Release

22 November 2021

APESB CEO appointed to the IESBA

The CEO of the APESB, Mr Channa Wijesinghe, has been appointed as a public member of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) for a three-year term.

The IESBA is an independent standard-setting board that develops, in the public interest, high-quality ethical standards, including auditor independence requirements, for professional accountants worldwide through the *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (the IESBA Code).

Mr Wijesinghe will bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the IESBA, including serving as the inaugural Technical Director of the APESB during its first decade of operations before being appointed as the CEO in 2016. As CEO, he manages the implementation of the board's strategy, national and international stakeholder engagement, operations and technical work program. He has overseen the issue of the APESB's suite of 21 pronouncements for the Australian accounting profession and has also represented Australia's interests at the IESBA's National Standards Setters Group since 2009.

"We are delighted with the appointment of Channa to the IESBA. This is a critical time in Australia and internationally as we emerge from the pandemic while dealing with the challenges of technology and sustainability. It is vitally important that Australian interests be represented at the global standard-setting board. Channa is well positioned to contribute important perspectives from Australia and the Oceania Region. We are also happy that Channa will continue in his role as CEO of APESB," said APESB Chairman, Nancy Milne OAM.

"I am honoured and excited to be appointed to the IESBA. My experience at APESB and ongoing engagement with regulators, professional bodies and other stakeholders in Australia and New Zealand provide me a unique understanding of major issues currently facing the accounting profession. I will endeavour to bring a public interest perspective to the continuing development of the IESBA Code that governs the conduct of accountants in an increasingly complex and challenging global environment," said Channa Wijesinghe.

The appointment commences on 1 January 2022.

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Notes to Editors: APESB is the National Standards Setter that sets the Code of ethics and professional standards by which members of Australia's three major professional accounting bodies (CPA Australia, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and the Institute of Public Accountants) are required to abide.