

ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONAL & ETHICAL STANDARDS BOARD LIMITED

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE APES GN 40 MEMBERS IN BUSINESS TASKFORCE

1 August 2008 from 4.00–5.00 PM

Teleconference

1. Present and Apologies

Present:

Mr. Channa Wijesinghe (Chairperson), Ms. Jo-Ann Long, Ms. Karen McWilliams, Mr. Paul Meredith, Mr Jeff O'Connell, Mr. John Purcell

2. Welcome and purpose of taskforce

Mr. Channa Wijesinghe welcomed taskforce members and provided an overview of the taskforce process and purpose of the taskforce. Mr. Wijesinghe also explained the Taskforce Terms of Reference which had been distributed to taskforce members prior to the meeting.

3. Discussion on existing guidance note and new IFAC developments

Taskforce members noted the absence of a specific standard to address Member in Business issues and noted the following in relation to the existing Guidance Note GN 1 *Members in Business Guidance Statement* (August 2002):

- There is a need to update the guidance provided in GN 1 to bring it into line with the five fundamental principles of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*;
- Revised guidance would need to be presented in accordance with APESB drafting conventions as reflected in the APESB's *Due process and working procedures for the development and review of APESB pronouncements*;
- The focus should be more on application of fundamental principles of the Code;
- The detailed procedures in relation to the ethical conflict resolution process should be reviewed and replaced with what occurs in practice currently;
- The American Accounting Association ethical conflict resolution model should either be removed or relocated to an Appendix; and
- The use of examples to illustrate the application of fundamental principles was supported.

4. Way forward

It was agreed that APESB technical staff would progress the development of a revised guidance note and circulate it for discussion prior to the next taskforce meeting.

5. Close of meeting

The next meeting of the taskforce will be convened at a date to be determined.