

AGENDA PAPER

Item Number: 4

Date of Meeting: 17 June 2025

Subject: Proposed Compilation of the Code of Ethics incorporating the Tax Planning Amending Standard.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> For noting	<input type="checkbox"/> For information
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Purpose

To seek the Board's approval, subject to feedback and comments, to issue a new Compiled APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (Compiled Code).

Background

To enhance the Code's accessibility and usability, APESB periodically issues a Compiled Code, which compiles all amending standards with the original Code.

APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) was released in November 2018. Since 2018, the Board has issued several amending standards to the Code.

In June 2024, APESB issued a [compiled Code](#) which incorporated the Code and the following amending standards issued up until June 2024:

- [Amendment to Part 4B of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\)](#) (September 2020);
- [Amendments to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\) to Promote the Role and Mindset Expected of Professional Accountants](#) (March 2021);
- [Amendments to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\) Addressing the Objectivity of an Engagement Quality Reviewer and Other Appropriate Reviewers](#) (February 2022);
- [Amendments to the Fee-related provisions of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\)](#) (July 2022);
- [Quality Management-related Conforming Amendments to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\)](#) (November 2022);
- [Amendments to the Non-Assurance Services provisions of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\)](#) (December 2022);

- [Revisions to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\) Relating to the Definition of Engagement Team and Group Audits](#) (June 2023);
- [Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\)](#) (November 2023); and
- [Technology-related revisions to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\)](#) (June 2024).

Since the issue of the current Compiled Code incorporating amending standards up until June 2024, APESB issued the amending standard [Revisions to APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including Independence Standards\) Addressing Tax Planning and Related Services](#) (the Tax Planning Amending Standard) in January 2025 with an effective date of 1 July 2025.

Key Considerations

The key changes in the Tax Planning Amending Standard, which come into effect on 1 July 2025, include:

- Adding new Sections 280 and 380 to assist Members in Business and Members in Public Practice in identifying and evaluating threats to the fundamental principles when engaging in tax planning and related services;
- Consequential amendments to Section 321 when Members of Public Practice provide a second opinion on the application of tax laws and regulations (paragraphs 321.3 A1, 321.3 A3 and R321.4); and
- Other minor editorial amendments.

Due to these substantive changes, which include new sections and requirements, Technical Staff are of the view that a revised Compiled Code should be issued for the benefit of Australian stakeholders.

Technical Staff have prepared an updated Compiled Code (refer to Agenda Item 4(a)) that incorporates the approved Tax Planning Amending Standard into the June 2024 Compiled Code, with the amendments shown in mark-up.

The details of the compilation and the complete list of all paragraphs affected by amending standards are set out on pages 5 – 29 of the draft Compiled Code at Agenda Item 4(a).

APESB Technical Staff seek the Board's approval to include the editorial amendments noted above and to issue the January 2025 version of the Compiled Code.

Way forward

Technical Staff will incorporate interactive features into the PDF of the Compiled Code before it is released.

The interactive PDF version of the Compiled Code is expected to be released in late June or early July 2025.

Staff Recommendation

That the Board approve, subject to the Board's feedback and comments, the issue of the Compiled APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (January 2025).

Material Presented

Agenda Item 4 (a) Draft Compiled Code of Ethics (January 2025) – Marked-up

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Date: 28 May 2025