

## AGENDA PAPER

**Item Number:** 5  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 June 2025  
**Subject:** Update on Sustainability Assurance

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Action required     For discussion     For noting     For information

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### Purpose

To provide the Board with background information on Australian sustainability-related assurance developments in light of the update to be provided by Mr Doug Niven, Chairman and CEO of the AUASB.

### Background

On 28 January 2025, the AUASB approved ASSA 5000 *General Requirements for Sustainability Assurance Engagements* (ASSA 5000), which aligns with ISSA 5000. The AUASB also approved the ASSA 5010 *Timeline for Audits and Reviews of Information in Sustainability Reports under the Corporations Act 2001* (ASSA 5010). (BM 130 (March 25) [Agenda Item 6](#))

The AUASB decided that the definition of ‘relevant ethical requirements’ in ASSA 5000 will temporarily refer to Parts 1 to 3 of APES 110 and Part 5 of the IESBA’s final pronouncement for sustainability assurance (IESSA). This definition will be revised when the APESB updates APES 110 to include the new sustainability-related requirements.

Mr Doug Niven, Chairman and CEO of the AUASB, updated the APESB Board on these standards and proposed further consultation at BM 130 (March 2025).

In April 2025, the AUASB issued [AUASB ED 01/25](#), which proposed amendments to ASSA 5000 and ASA 102. The main amendments proposed were to introduce transitional provisions for independence requirements for sustainability assurance engagements concerning the provision of certain non-assurance services and the use of external experts. APESB also made a Submission to AUASB’s ED 01/25 (Refer to Agenda Item 5 (b))

At the AUASB May 2025 Board meeting, the AUASB considered the feedback from the due process for AUASB ED 01/25. The AUASB decided to apply the current APES 110 instead of referring to Parts 1 to 4A of APES 110 and Part 5 of the IESBA Code. The AUASB will consider adopting a revised APES 110 after the APESB issues it from the APESB’s effective date of 1 January 2026. Refer to Agenda Item 5(a) for the AUASB’s Board Meeting [Highlights](#).

## **Recommendation**

That the Board note the background information on sustainability-related assurance developments and the verbal update to be provided by the AUASB Chairman and CEO.

## **Material Presented**

Agenda Item 5 (a) AUASB Meeting Highlights  
Agenda Item 5 (b) APESB's Submission to AUASB's ED 01/25

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