

Meeting Highlights

22 AUGUST 2017

1. Register of Interests

The Board noted Agenda Item 1 *Register of Interests*.

2. Proposed compiled version of APES 110

The Board noted Agenda Item 2 *Proposed Compiled version of APES 110*.

The Board approved the issue of the 2017 Compiled APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* which incorporates all amending standards including the amending standard issued in May 2017 comprising the new standard addressing *Responding to Non-Compliance with Laws and Regulations* (NOCLAR).

3. Project Update: Long Association

The Board noted Agenda Item 3 *Project Update: Long Association*.

The Board approved the development of a Long Association Q&A publication based on the IESBA publication, and requested APESB Technical Staff to collaborate with relevant Australian stakeholders and the NZAuASB to ensure that the Q&A publication responds to issues pertinent to Australian practitioners and where applicable, of common interest for Australia and New Zealand.

The Board requested APESB Technical Staff to present a draft of the Q&A publication at the October 2017 Board meeting for the Board's consideration.

The Board agreed that the Long Association Close-Off Document be released at the same time as the Q&A publication before the end of calendar year 2017.

4. NZ Update on Long Association

The Board noted Agenda Item 4 *NZAuASB Long Association Project*.

Mr Buchanan (NZAuASB Chairman) and Ms Pieters (NZAuASB Senior Project Manager) provided the Board with an update on the NZAuASB Long Association project, including the potential impact of the implementation of the revised Long Association provisions in New Zealand.

The key matters raised were:

- the application of IESBA's jurisdictional exemption during the transition period in Australia but not in New Zealand, and the resulting impact on dual Listed Entities; and
- the impact of the revised provisions to the definition of Public Interest Entities (PIEs) in New Zealand, including the potential for amending the NZ PIE definition.

5. International and other activities

The Board noted Agenda Item 5 *International and other activities*.

The Board noted the APESB's collaboration with the Professional Bodies, AUASB and BDO in conducting NOCLAR awareness sessions in key Australian cities and webinars during August – October 2017.

6. Annual reviews of APESB pronouncements

The Board noted Agenda Item 6 *Annual reviews of APESB Pronouncements*.

The Board approved the issue of an exposure draft on proposed revised APES 325 *Risk Management for Firms*.

The Board requested APESB Technical Staff to prepare a project plan for conducting a survey on the use and effectiveness of APES GN 30 *Outsourced Services*.

The Board agreed with the APESB Technical Staff proposal to undertake a project in 2018 to revise APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business*.

The Board agreed that the matters raised during the annual reviews of APES 305 and APES 350 be addressed in the next revision of the relevant pronouncements.

7. Proposed Guidance Note: APES GN 31 *Low Doc Offering Sign-offs*

The Board noted Agenda Item 7 *Proposed Guidance Note: APES GN 31 Professional and Ethical Considerations Relating to Low Doc Offering Sign-offs (APES GN 31)*.

Subject to final editorial comments, the Board approved the issue of APES GN 31 *Professional and Ethical Considerations Relating to Low Doc Offering Sign-offs* and the accompanying *Basis for Conclusions*.

8. Project update on proposed revised APES 310 *Client Monies*

The Board noted Agenda Item 8 *Update on revision of APES 310 Client Monies*.

The Board approved the revisions to the example assurance report in Appendix 1 and the new paragraph on engagement acceptance processes for Auditors of Client Monies.

The Board considered the draft *Information Sheet* which provides information on the reasons why an accountant needs to open a trust account with a bank, the covering template letter and feedback received from the Australian Bankers' Association (ABA) and Tax Practitioners Board (TPB).

The Board received updates on the consultations with the Professional Bodies in respect of the *Information Sheet*, template letter, and issues relating to changing of Auditor of Client Monies and applicability of APES 310 to dual signatory roles.

The Board will review the progress of this project at its November 2017 Meeting.