

IFAC REACTION AND DISCUSSION POINTS ON THE MG REPORT OF SEPTEMBER 2010

MG RECOMMENDATION	IFAC RESPONSE	DUE DATE
<p>1. IFAC should change the practice of reserving 15 out of the 18 seats in the Audit Board and Ethics Board for nominees of the Forum of Firms and IFAC member bodies so that the opportunity for a Board member appointment is more easily accessible to all qualified persons.</p>	<p>IFAC seeks to understand better the concerns that lead to the recommendation and through discussion look for a solution that can address the concerns in an appropriate and proportionate manner</p> <p>A change which removed the reserved positions would require a change to the IFAC and FOF Constitutions that would be placed before members in November 2011. 2012 appointments will have been made by September 2011.</p> <p>Does the MG see real gaps or deficiencies in membership or is the recommendation more symbolic with a wish to see the reserved seats formally removed?</p> <p>IFAC is willing to consider expanding the number of observers on each Board effective in 2012. (Constitutional change may be required) We would welcome the opportunity to discuss whether the MG sees this as an avenue that could address some of the concerns underlying this recommendation, and if so we would also welcome discussion on who might be appointed to these additional observer positions.</p>	<p>No earlier than Jan 2013</p>
<p>2. IFAC should evaluate the current time and financial commitments asked of Board members in relation to whether such commitments are feasible for a large enough and diverse enough pool of qualified non-practitioners who could realistically serve on the Boards.</p>	<p>We have the same response as Recommendation 1 above.</p>	<p>No earlier than Jan 2013</p>

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<p>3. IFAC should take a first step toward providing more independence to the work of the Ethics Board by providing it with an independent Chair position in view of the inherent conflicts of interest that particularly relate to the work of this Board.</p>	<p>IFAC recognizes the importance of the independence of the process as a whole, and sees the independence of the chair as one element in the whole process. While IFAC believes the safeguards that are already applied to the threat of an inherent conflict of interests in the role of Chair of the IESBA are sufficient to neutralize the threat, we would wish to discuss the nature and time frame of actions that might be taken to further mitigate the risk associated with the role of the Chair. In this context it would be helpful to have a discussion with the MG to agree on the characteristics that would make for an independent chair. This would be particularly useful given that the role of the Ethics Board is much broader than addressing auditor independence.</p> <p>It would be helpful to have some elaboration of the criteria the MG would look for to achieve “independence”.</p> <p>Appointing an independent Chair would require a change in the IFAC Constitution that would be placed before members in November 2011. 2012 appointments to the Board will have been made by September 2011. The term of the current chair expires in December 2012.</p> <p>IFAC does not believe that this position requires 100% time commitment. We assume 50-60% time commitment. Is this consistent with the MG vision?</p>	<p>No earlier than Jan 2013</p>
<p>4. IFAC should manage the Board member appointments such that a substantial number of the non-practitioners who serve on the Boards work outside of auditing-related organizations, including auditor professional associations, so that they bring other perspectives to the debates.</p>	<p>The current Nominations process, with oversight by PIOB, has already sought to balance the perspectives of voting members around the Board table.</p> <p>We would welcome a discussion aimed at reaching a mutually acceptable definition of non-practitioner. The current definition set out in the call for nominations reads;</p>	<p>Appointments starting in 2012 and going forward</p>

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	<p>A non-practitioner is not a member or an employee of an audit practice firm. Former members or employees of such firms can only be regarded as non-practitioners after three years have elapsed since ceasing membership in or employment by the firm. However, the PIOB has the authority to reduce that period, on a “comply or explain basis”, to not less than one year. The category of non-practitioners is a broad one; it includes professionals from academia, the government, the public sector, international agencies, development banks, and other organizations related to the accounting profession. Professional Accountants in Business (PAIBs) are also considered non-practitioners. Non-practitioners may also be individuals who are not professional accountants. The non-practitioner category includes the following, based on backgrounds or occupations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic • Development Bank • Financial Services Regulator • Government • Non-Governmental Organization • Standard-Setter Staff • Consultant • International Agency <p>Public members</p> <p>Three positions are open for public nominations on each of IFAC’s four standard-setting boards. These <i>public members</i> can be self-nominated or nominated by any individual or organization, including an IFAC member body. Public members should be able to, and be seen to, reflect the wider public interest, and they should desirably have a strong technical knowledge of the subject matters</p>	

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	<p>considered by their board. Public members cannot be practitioners.</p> <p>Please see Appendix 1 for list of 2011 non-practitioner members.</p>	
<p>5. IFAC should make complete information about the backgrounds, qualifications and affiliations of Board members available on its website so that from this perspective regulators and external stakeholders could better decide the level of confidence they wish to place in the Board's work.</p>	<p>IFAC will develop a template to provide more relevant information about backgrounds, qualifications and affiliations of Board members and their technical advisors.</p> <p>The information will be reviewed by each individual for accuracy before posting.</p>	<p>2011 Q2</p>
<p>6. The Board Chairs should ensure that the involvement of Technical Advisors in the Board's work encompasses only advisory and support roles so that the Technical Advisors are not effectively carrying out the Board's work via their level of involvement in the Board's evaluation and decision making processes.</p>	<p>The PIAC Chairs confirm this is already done by reminding the TAs of their role at the commencement of each Board meeting.</p> <p>Further, on the occasion when a PIAC Chair invites TAs to provide additional contributions, it is in connection with an issue that the chair believes the TAs will have insight on</p> <p>We are sure the PIACs would welcome PIOB assessment (either at the end of a meeting, or at the end of 2011) whether the PIOB has observed any instances of TA input that goes beyond the advisory and support role.</p>	<p>Already in place</p>
<p>7. If the roles of Technical Advisors are significant in Task Forces or other Board-related work, then IFAC should make backgrounds and the nature and degree of the rights and responsibilities of Technical Advisors available on its website to provide transparency.</p>	<p>IFAC agrees to this recommendation. See response to #5 above.</p>	<p>2011 Q2</p>

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<p>8. The Boards should develop processes or practices for identifying the issues raised by those who represent the public interest so that those issues can receive adequate attention in Board papers and Board member discussions.</p>	<p>IFAC believe this is already part of current process and that many respondents raise issues that specifically address the public interest regardless of whether they might be perceived as representing a specific constituency. The fact that the respondent is not a regulatory authority does not negate the fact that their response may have genuine public interest issues to consider. In fact the IFAC public policy draft document currently exposed for comment proposes that the public interest is met when <u>all</u> constituencies have a chance to comment.</p> <p>We would welcome a dialogue to understand more clearly what the MG is looking for in these new processes or practices. With a clearer understanding we would ask the PIACs to agree with PIOB whatever changes in process might be required.</p>	<p>2011 Q4</p>
<p>9. The Boards should either discontinue proxy voting or limit it to truly exceptional cases so that Board members also carry out the voting aspect of the Board's deliberative work themselves.</p>	<p>The IFAC Board will be asked to review this recommendation and if the Board agrees (and subject to PIOB approval). The terms of reference will be amended to make this specific. It is probable that the current practice followed by all PIAC Chairs of requiring the members to give their proxy to another member representing the same group of members (non-practitioner, public member etc) will suffice but should be specified in the terms of reference. This can be coupled with a provision for proxies in exceptional circumstances which may be better left undefined.</p> <p>(IFAC will review with the PIACs and PIOB whether there are additional changes to the terms of reference of the PIACs to ensure that all changes are made at the same time.)</p>	<p>2012 Q1</p>

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	<p>These changes may require public exposure and PIOB approval so will take some time</p> <p>In the interim, the PIAC chairs will remind members of the importance of attending the Board meetings and participating in any voting in person. In the event that exceptional circumstances dictate that a proxy vote is required the PIAC chairs will ensure that proxies are only given to other Board members and that a proxy from a non-practitioner is only issued to another non-practitioner.</p>	
<p>10. The Boards' procedures should ensure identification of the views of all stakeholder groups, with emphasis on the quality and public interest rationale of the points raised rather than on the number of responders.</p>	<p>The PIAC Chairs believe this is already done. We consider that the processes of the PIACs are already designed to focus on the quality of argument and the nature of the respondent, rather than the number of responses. We would welcome suggestions from the MG on ways to better demonstrate this.</p>	
<p>11. As each project progresses the Boards should provide a summary of tentative decisions to-date on the IFAC website so there is a better opportunity for constituents to notice any concerns along the way and then reach out to the Boards in a timely fashion.</p>	<p>We would welcome a dialogue to understand more clearly what the MG is looking for in these new processes or practices. We believe the current process already does what is sought. See for example http://www.ifac.org/IAASB/ProjectHistory.php?ProjID=0096</p>	
<p>12. IFAC, in consultation with the Monitoring Group members, should put in place the arrangements called for in the Reforms for the Boards to provide direct feedback to an individual Monitoring Group member regarding its input to the Boards if it does not appear that the Boards will take up the input in a final Standard in the manner that the Monitoring Group member recommended.</p>	<p>IFAC agrees, and would look to working with the MG to identify arrangements that might give effect to this recommendation, taking account the need to develop processes that are efficient and timely.</p> <p>Most final standards are approved by a Board through debate at two consecutive meetings. We will need to discuss the mechanisms that could enable appropriate discussion between the first and second meeting to review</p>	<p>2011 Q4</p>

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	<p>tentative decisions by a Board which does not intend to take up the input of a MG member so that the second Board meeting has the benefit of the MG member reaction.</p> <p>(IFAC has already asked IOSCO to consider processes that could achieve this aim from the perspective of that member of the MG. The other members of the MG will be consulted individually in the coming months).</p>	
<p>13. The PIOB, IFAC and the CAG Chairs and CAG members should undertake further examination to provide for a shared understanding of the technical consultative and advisory role of the CAGs.</p>	<p>We would envisage it will be discussed by the respective groups in joint and individual sessions. Changes may be required to the terms of reference of the CAGs depending on outcomes. It will be helpful to get further input from the MG to better understand the areas in which there is not a shared understanding.</p> <p>A conference call of the Chairs of all three CAGs on January 17, 2011 indicates some confusion over this recommendation. The Chairs suggest that the provision of technical input to the work of the respective Boards is seen as a key role by many CAG members and, indeed, as the main reason for their participation.</p> <p>IFAC welcomes discussion to better understand the reason behind this recommendation.</p>	<p>2011 Q4</p>
<p>14. If the post-Reforms standard-setting processes are to sustain themselves, then the PIOB needs to be able to feel comfortable utilizing a risk-based approach to performing its oversight work, in place of a strategy of 100% observation of meetings.</p>	<p>The PIOB is responsible for determining its own processes. However, the PIACs have been consistent in expressing their appreciation of the regular attendance and input from PIOB members. It is not for IFAC to assume how the PIOB will evaluate the importance of a specific PIAC meeting but the agendas always have technical issues to debate and often have strategic issues that surface at the last minute.</p>	

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	While the Boards lay out expected agendas for their meetings as much as a year in advance, it is impossible until early before a meeting to determine whether the actual agenda will have other matters that would prove critical to the public interest.	
15. The Monitoring Group and the PIOB will, in consultation with IFAC, explore additional opportunities for neutral PIOB funding so there is a means to assure a continued source of appropriate funding for the oversight function.	IFAC supports this proposal. We would welcome further discussions with the MG on this issue.	
16. The Monitoring Group has asked the PIOB to review its use of budgetary resources and will consult with the PIOB to revisit any issues related to its structure, staffing, assessment of risks, or other matters that may impede ongoing enhancements. The Monitoring Group will work within its PIOB budget review role in considering, along with the PIOB, all of these matters.	As long as IFAC continues to guarantee a proportion of the PIOB budget, IFAC is supportive of any action to actively monitor the PIOB budget.	
17. The Monitoring Group, in consultation with the PIOB, will clarify the roles and responsibilities of each so that there is a better strategic dialogue and structure for future mutual interaction.	No comment	
18. The Monitoring Group will both improve and better communicate its approach to monitoring so that it can better engage with the PIOB, the Boards and their Chairs, IFAC and other relevant organizations.	IFAC welcomes this recommendation.	

**Non-Practitioner members of the Public Interest Activity Committees
As at January 1, 2011**

International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB)

Name	Country	Current/recent professional experience	Date last served as a member of an accounting practice
Gelard, Cedric	France	Mr. Gélard is the Director of Technical Services at the Compagnie Nationale des Commissaires aux Comptes. Mr. Gelard supports the committee for professional standards and the transposition of International Audit Standards into French referential standards and the development of French audit standards.	1995- Auditor with Salustro-Reydel
Grant, Jon	United Kingdom	Mr. Grant previously served as Executive Director of the UK's Auditing Practices Board and as a member of the European Commission's ISA implementation group. Mr. Grant has extensive experience in audit standard setting within a major firm and an independent standard setting function. Mr. Grant is a member of the UK Financial Reporting Council.	1996- Partner-PwC
Jönsson, Gert	Sweden	<p>Mr. Jönsson is a public member. He has been part of the top management team at the Swedish National Audit Office for many years. Since 2005, he has served as the Deputy Auditor General of the Swedish National Audit Office and Chair of the the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) Financial Audit Guidelines Subcommittee (FAS).</p> <p>As Chair of the FAS, Mr. Jönsson has actively contributed to and promoted cooperation between INTOSAI and the IAASB and worked on developing state audit functions in developing countries around the world.</p> <p>Mr. Jönsson has a master's degree in political science and previous work experience in the Swedish Ministry of Finance.</p>	

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Kelsall, Merran	Australia	<p>Ms. Kelsall has considerable expertise in audit, risk, and compliance. She is an experienced independent director, having served on numerous boards in the private and public sectors, and is currently part-time Chairman of the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AUASB). The Board is an independent statutory agency of the Australian Government that is responsible for setting auditing and assurance standards and related guidance in the public interest.</p> <p>Ms. Kelsall's current appointments also include: Chairman, Public Transport Industry Ombudsman (Victoria), and Director, Melbourne Water Corporation and RACV Ltd. She also chairs a syndicate for the CEO Institute, and is a former Trustee of the National Gallery of Victoria.</p>	1987-Partner - BDO
Kinney, William	United States	<p>Mr. Kinney holds the Charles & Elizabeth Prothro Regents Chair in Business and is the Price Waterhouse Fellow in Auditing, Department of Accounting at the University of Texas at Austin. He has wide consulting experience with accounting firms as well as government bodies such as the U.S. Government Accountability Office. He presently serves on an advisory panel for the U.S. Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and is a member of both the American Accounting Association and the AICPA.</p> <p>Mr. Kinney has taught accounting and auditing in several universities in the U.S. and Europe. He has also served as editor of <i>The Accounting Review</i> and authored numerous articles featured in a number of accountancy journals.</p>	1964 – Staff Accountant- Arthur Young & Company,
Schilder, Arnold	Netherlands	<p>Prof. Arnold Schilder became Chair of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board in January 2009.</p> <p>From 1998 to 2008, Prof. Schilder was a member of the Managing Board of the Dutch Central Bank, responsible in particular for banking regulation and supervision. In addition, he served as the Chair of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision's Accounting Task Force from 1999-2006, and from 2005-2008 as a member of the Public Interest Oversight Board. During 1994 and 1995 he served also as President of Royal NIVRA. From 1972 to 1998 he worked with PricewaterhouseCoopers, serving since 1985 as an international audit partner.</p>	1998-PricewaterhouseCoopers

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		He served as part-time Professor of Auditing at the Universities of Amsterdam and Maastricht from 1988 to 2009. He studied theology and accountancy, and earned a Ph.D. in auditor independence in 1994.	
Sekiguchi, Tomokazu	Japan	<p>Mr. Sekiguchi became a public member of the IAASB in 2009, having served as a CAG member since 2005 representing the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO). While working for the Financial Services Agency of Japan (JFSA) as the Deputy Chief Accountant from 2004 to 2009, he was involved in a number of international regulatory agendas with regards to auditing and other financial reporting areas. He also served as an observer to the IESBA representing the JFSA in 2007 and 2008.</p> <p>Mr. Sekiguchi works for the Financial Accounting Standards Foundation in Japan, where he is engaged in developments of accounting standards and other financial reporting activities. He also served as a visiting professor at Aoyama Gakuin University in Japan.</p>	2004- KPMG AZSA & Co.
Swanney, David	United Kingdom	<p>Mr. Swanney is a chartered accountant and retired banking regulator, having spent 20 years with the Bank of England and the United Kingdom Financial Services Authority. He has also been director, Group Compliance and Group MLRO for a major UK banking group. Mr. Swanney is currently a non-executive director of the UK subsidiaries of two overseas banks.</p> <p>Since 2002, he has worked with the British Bankers' Association on money laundering prevention and accounting issues. He is the author of the UK Joint Money Laundering Steering Group's current radical revision of their money laundering guidance.</p>	1976-Manager -Thomson McLintock
Yusuf, Abdullah	Pakistan	<p>Mr. Yusuf is the former Secretary General of Revenue Division of the Government of Pakistan and is also Chair of the Central Board of Revenue, the primary body responsible for tax administration in Pakistan. Prior to this, he headed the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources as its Secretary and the Board of Investment and of the Privatization Commission.</p> <p>Mr. Yusuf is the Vice-President (North) and a council member of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP). He also chairs the ICAP Audit Committee.</p>	1980- Accountant - Riaz Ahmad & Company

International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA)

Name	Country	Current/recent professional experience	Date last served as a member of an accounting practice
Barakzai, Nina	United Kingdom	<p>Ms. Barakzai serves on the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants' Professional Standards Committee and the Research Advisory Group. Her professional experience is in compliance, privacy and consumer protection, commercial negotiation and corporate finance, principally in the telecommunications and upstream oil and gas sectors.</p> <p>Ms. Barakzai sits on the Law Society's Commerce & Industry Corporate Governance Committee. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, was admitted as a Solicitor in March 2000, is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and is an Accredited Mediator.</p>	1985-Thomson McLintock & Co
Gaa, James	Canada	<p>Dr. Gaa is a public member with nearly 30 years of teaching and research experience in accounting and ethics at the university level; Dr. Gaa is currently a Professor of Accounting at the University of Alberta (Canada). He is a Fellow of the Certified General Accountants' Association of Canada, where he served on the Board of Directors from 2004 to 2009.</p> <p>Dr. Gaa has participated as a Board Member on the International Accounting Standards Committee and as a member of the Canadian Advisory Group on International Accounting Standards. He was also an ex officio member of the Accounting Standards Oversight Council of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. In addition, Dr. Gaa served as a member and Chair of the Professionalism and Ethics Committee of the American Accounting Association for seven years during the 1990s. Dr. Gaa has PhD degrees from Washington University in St. Louis (philosophy of science) and the University of Illinois (accounting)-both in the U.S.</p>	

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Gardner, Caroline	United Kingdom	<p>Since 2004, Ms. Gardner serves as the Controller of Audit for Audit Scotland where she began as the Deputy Auditor General in 2000. Prior to this role, Ms. Gardner worked with the Accounts Commission for Scotland as the Director of Health Studies where she established their work in the National Health Service.</p> <p>Ms. Gardner served as the President of CIPFA during 2006-2007. She has also served the organization extensively as a member and Chair of the CIPFA Council. As President, Ms. Gardner led the adoption of CIPFA's Statement of Professional Practice on ethics, which is based on IFAC's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.</p> <p>Ms. Gardner has an MBA from the University of Warwick (U.K.).</p>	
Holmquist, Jörgen	Sweden	<p>Mr. Holmquist is a public member and served as Director General, DG Internal Market and Services, European Commission from 2007 to 2010. He is a current Adviser Hors Classe in the European Commission, Fellow at Harvard University. Mr. Holmquist holds a degree in Economics from the University of Stockholm, Sweden.</p>	
McCleary, Alice		<p>Ms. McCleary is a professional company director. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, and a Life Member of the Taxation Institute of Australia. She was National President of the Taxation Institute of Australia in 2001-2.</p>	1997-Corporate tax partner in Coopers & Lybrand
Rutherford, Robert	Canada	<p>Mr. Rutherford is a retired audit and technical partner with KPMG Canada. Following this, he served for ten years as vice president of standards at the CICA. In that capacity, he was responsible for accounting, auditing and assurance, and public sector standards, and was actively involved in the establishment of oversight bodies. Mr. Rutherford's other standard-setting experience includes serving as a technical advisor to the International Accounting Standards Committee from 1996 to 2000 and as a member of numerous committees within the CICA and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario. Mr. Rutherford was the recipient of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta's Distinguished Service Award in June 2006.</p>	1995-Partner KPMG

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Spargo, Kate	Australia	<p>Ms. Kate Spargo is public member. She has over 10 years experience in non-executive directorship roles, mainly in the finance, infrastructure and professional services sectors, Ms. Spargo currently holds non-executive directorships with Transfield Services Infrastructure Ltd, Australian Unity, Pacific Hydro Pty Ltd, Investec Bank (Australia) Ltd, and ColInvest Ltd., among others. A particular focus for her in these roles is related to business ethics and governance, and in developing sustaining business operating standards. She also chairs or is a member of the Audit, Risk and/or Remunerations Committees for many of these companies.</p> <p>Ms. Spargo was appointed independent Chair of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board (Australia) in 2007. She is a Fellow and Councilor of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.</p> <p>Ms. Spargo has qualifications in law and arts from Adelaide University (Australia).</p>	
Van Bellinghen, Sandrine	Belgium	<p>Ms. Van Bellinghen serves as Senior Manager International Relations with IBR-IRE, actively involved in the Ethics Working Party of both the Belgian IBR-IRE and the Fédération des Experts Comptables Européens. She is also a member of the Law Society of England and Wales. Ms. Van Bellinghen is a co-author of "FEE Study on Trans-national Organizations and Practices within the Accountancy Profession", April 2008.</p>	
Walsh, Brian	United Kingdom	<p>Mr. Walsh has served in a number of financial roles with multinational corporations involved in manufacturing and financial services. He has been Finance Director of two FTSE-100 companies and Non-Executive Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of several organizations, including the Nationwide Building Society. Mr. Walsh currently serves as advisor to a number of businesses.</p> <p>Mr. Walsh is a Chartered Management Institute (CMI) Companion, and is also a member of the Advisory Board of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.</p> <p>Mr. Walsh graduated from the London Business School with a master's degree in economics.</p>	

International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB)

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Allison, Mark	Scotland	<p>Mr. Allison serves as the Executive Director, Education and International at the ICAS. He is responsible for the Institute's Chartered Accountant qualification system as well as its International Department. He was also an advisor to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at the time of the development of the UN Accounting Curriculum and has been a member of the Task Force and Steering Committee of the European Common Content Group since its creation in 2001.</p> <p>Mr. Allison had served as a technical advisor to the Education Board (formerly the Education Committee) from 1998 to 2005 and contributed significantly to the design and writing of the International Education Standards (IESs) 1-8.</p> <p>Mr. Allison is also a visiting professor at Robert Gordon University, Scotland. Mr. Allison has a master's degree in economics and accounting from the University of Edinburgh.</p>	1988- Peat Marwick Mitchell (now KPMG)- Senior Auditor
Austin, Chris	United Kingdom	<p>Mr. Austin has been the Country Representative for the UK Department for International Development (DFID) Bangladesh since August 2007. He has worked for the British Government in a number of roles over the last 25 years, both in the Treasury (the UK's Finance Ministry) and DFID. Previously, he worked at DFID's London headquarters as Deputy Director for Southern Africa.</p> <p>He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and holds a BA (Hons) from London University and an MBA from Lancaster University.</p>	
Hiramatsu, Kazuo	Japan	Professor Hiramatsu is a public member. He has over 30 years of teaching experience at Kwansei Gakuin University in Japan, Professor Hiramatsu has also taught at other universities around the world including Satya Wacana Christian University (Indonesia), the University of Glasgow (Scotland), the	

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		<p>University of Washington in the U.S. and Ma Chung University (Indonesia). From 2002-2008, Professor Hiramatsu also served as the President of Kwansei Gakuin University.</p> <p>Throughout his career, Professor Hiramatsu has held numerous leadership positions in various accountancy organizations, including Vice President at the International Association for Accounting Education & Research, President of the Japanese Association for International Accounting Studies, Vice President-International of the American Accounting Association (AAA) (2009-2011), and President of Japan Accounting Association (2009-2012).</p> <p>Professor Hiramatsu has a PhD from the Graduate School of Business Administration of Kwansei Gakuin University (Japan). In 2005, he received the Outstanding International Accounting Educator Award from the AAA.</p>	
Kharwa, Saleem	South Africa	Mr. Kharwa holds two master's degrees and is the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Accounting and Informatics at the Durban University of Technology. He also serves as advisor to the Eastern, Central and South Africa Federation of Accountants (ECSAFA) President. He previously served as the Head of the Accounting Department at the University, President and Chairperson of South Africa Institute of Professional Accountants (SAIPA), Chair of the Institute's Education Committee, member of the ECSAFA Executive Committee, and member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee of the South African Regulator.	
Kieswetter, Edward	South Africa	Mr. Kieswetter is a public member and the Group Chief Executive of Alexander Forbes Equity Holdings (Pty) Ltd, a Global Financial Services company headquartered in South Africa. He was previously the Deputy Commissioner at the South African Revenue Authority and a member of the South African National Treasury Tax Revenue Committee. Mr. Kieswetter is also the Vice-Chair of the University of Free State and Chairman of the IRBA's Committee for Auditor Ethics. Noteworthy professional accomplishments include South Africa's Boss of the Year in 2000, Director of Companies and serving as President of the South African Institute of Bankers from 2002-2004. In addition, he is a committed servant leader actively involved in community projects and lay ministering, pastoral	

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		<p>counselling and leadership development.</p> <p>Qualified in Electrical Engineering, Mr. Kieswetter also holds three master's degrees in Science Education (Cognitive Development) from UWC, an Executive MBA, Henley University, UK, and a Master in Commerce (cum laude)(SA/International Tax), Northwest University.</p>	
Langfield-Smith, Kim	Australia	<p>Professor Langfield-Smith is Deputy Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Business and Economics at Monash University, Australia. Prior to this, she was the Head of the Department of Accounting and Finance at Monash University. She has served on many committees of the accounting profession in Australia. She is currently Chair of the Professional Qualifications Advisory Committee and is former Chair of the Accreditation Advisory Committee of CPA Australia.</p>	
Meljem, Sylvia	Mexico	<p>Ms. Meljem is the chief of the Academic Department of Accounting at the Independent Technological Institute of Mexico. She is also president of the Committee of Evaluation of Plans and Programs of the Instituto Mexicano de Contadores Públicos.</p> <p>She received her Master in Business Administration from ITAM with a specialty in Cost Accounting.</p>	
Pincus, Karen	United States	<p>Dr. Pincus is the S. Robson Walton Professor of Accounting at the University of Arkansas' Sam M. Walton College of Business. She chairs the Department of Accounting at the Walton College and was elected 2005-2006 President of Beta Alpha Psi, the honorary for accounting, finance and information systems students. She previously served on the faculty of the University of Southern California's Leventhal School of Accounting.</p> <p>Dr. Pincus was the recipients of the AICPA's Distinguished Achievement in Accounting Education award and the AWSCPA's Educator of the Year Award. Dr. Pincus is active in professional service at the state and national levels, including current service as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). She will be appointed the Chair of the American Accounting Association in 2011</p>	

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Ralsan, Azza	Saudi Arabia	Ms. Raslan is the Chief Financial Officer of Dr. Soliman Fakeeh Hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and has extensive experience both as a CFO and as Chief Internal Auditor in a variety of industry sectors such as Healthcare, Travel, Banks, and Insurance. During her career, Ms. Raslan has been involved in various mentoring and development programs for accountants.	