

**Meeting:** IESBA CAG

**Meeting Location:** Virtual

**Meeting Date:** March 7 & 31, 2022

## Agenda Item

# C

### IESBA Future Strategy (2024 – 2027)

#### Objective of Agenda Item

1. To obtain Representatives' views on the approach to, and content of, the survey of stakeholders for the purpose of developing the IESBA's Strategy and Work Plan (SWP) 2024-2027.

#### Working Group

2. The Working Group comprises members of the IESBA Planning Committee (PC):

- Gabriela Figueiredo Dias, IESBA Chair
- Caroline Lee, IESBA Deputy Chair
- Richard Huesken, IESBA Member
- Jens Poll, IESBA Member

#### Observer

- Gaylen Hansen, Chair, IESBA CAG

#### Background

3. The current IESBA [SWP](#), released in April 2019, is for the period between 2019 and 2023 with a little under 2 years remaining.
4. At its November-December 2021 meeting, the IESBA began preliminary discussions on developing its next SWP 2024-2027.
5. The IESBA's due process specifies the issuance of a survey to obtain the broadest possible stakeholder input about issues the IESBA should address in its next strategy period. The responses to the strategy survey will inform the development of a draft SWP consultation paper (CP), which the IESBA will issue for public comment for no less than 60 days. The IESBA will then deliberate the feedback to the consultation paper in formulating its final SWP.
6. At its March 2022 meeting, the IESBA will consider the draft strategy survey (**Agenda Item C-1**), taking into account the CAG's input with a view to finalizing it for issuance in April 2022.

## Timeline

7. The anticipated timeline for the development of the SWP 2024 – 2027 is as follows:

Milestone	Expected Timing
IESBA consideration and approval of survey	March 2022
Publication of survey	Mid-April 2022
Close of survey	End June 2022
Discussion of survey responses with CAG	September 2022
Full IESBA review of survey responses	September 2022
First read draft SWP CP	December 2022
IESBA approval of SWP CP	March 2023
Discussion of CP responses and draft SWP with CAG	September 2023
Full IESBA review CP responses and draft SWP	September 2023
IESBA approval final SWP	December 2023
PIOB approval	March 2024
Release of SWP 2024-2027	April 2024

8. The development of the next SWP will be closely coordinated with the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) under the established framework for coordination between the IESBA and IAASB.

## **Overview of the draft Strategy Survey**

9. The strategy survey seeks initial views from stakeholders on key issues, developments and challenges in the external environment that should be considered by the IESBA as it develops its SWP for the period 2024 – 2027.
10. The draft survey comprises of three Sections.
11. **Section A** collects biographical information about the respondents.
12. The first half of **Section B** provides a summary of the current SWP's three strategic themes and a high-level overview of the projects and initiatives completed to date. It also informs stakeholders that in executing the next SWP, the Board will take into account the governance and oversight arrangements that will be implemented as part of the Monitoring Group's recommendations, [\*Strengthening the International Audit and Ethics Standard-Setting System\*](#).
13. The second half of **Section B** describes four strategic focus areas that may underpin the IESBA's strategic direction and priorities for the new SWP 2024 – 2027:
- (a) Enhancing independence standards for assurance engagements on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) information
  - (b) Strengthening independence standards for audit engagements

- (c) Raising the bar of ethical behavior for professional accountants in business
- (d) Promoting timely adoption and effective implementation of the Code

Stakeholders are asked to provide feedback on each of these strategic focus areas and if there are any other environmental trends or developments that the IESBA should be concerned about from a strategic perspective.

14. **Section C** provides a list of topics that may be considered as future projects or initiatives for the new SWP. These topics were identified through various means including ongoing and recently completed work streams, and the previous strategy consultation process. Stakeholders are asked to assess the level of importance of these topics and to provide a brief rationale for those topics that have been assessed as high importance. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to comment on a full description of the IESBA's proposed future work plan when it issues the CP in due course.

#### **Matters for CAG Consideration**

15. CAG Representatives are asked to share views on:
- (a) The draft strategy survey in **Agenda Item C-1**; and
  - (b) Ways to effectively solicit feedback to the survey from stakeholders outside the accountancy profession

#### **Material Presented**

##### *For Discussion*

Agenda Item C-1      Draft Strategy Survey