

Meeting: IESBA
Meeting Location: New York
Meeting Date: December 8 – 12, 2025

Agenda Item 7

Technology

Objectives

1. To consider:
 - (a) A report-back on the technology session at the Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC) meeting held on October 22, 2025 in New York; and
 - (b) An update on the Technology Working Group's¹ (TWG) activities, including its proposed work plan for the first half (H1) of 2026.

Activities Since the September 2025 IESBA Meeting

SAC Report-back

2. At the [October 2025](#) SAC meeting, a joint IESBA–International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) session was held on technology and the impact on audit, assurance and ethics. SAC members discussed how emerging and increasingly complex technologies, particularly artificial intelligence (AI), are transforming the audit, assurance and ethics landscape. SAC members emphasized several high-level themes:
 - The need to maintain strong ethical judgment and accountability as professional accountants increasingly leverage AI tools.
 - The importance of robust governance and oversight frameworks to manage risks such as bias, misinformation, and over-reliance on “black box” models.
 - The value of clarifying the application of, and consistently applying, existing standards to new technologies, for example through guidance on how principles in the IESBA Code and the IAASB's ISQM 1² apply to generative AI.

¹ The Working Group comprises:

- David Clark, Chair, IESBA Technical Advisor
- Tomoyo Imura, IESBA Member
- Paul Muthaura, IESBA Member
- David Wray, IESBA Member

² International Standard on Quality Management (ISQM 1), *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*

SAC members further reaffirmed that innovation must be balanced with the public interest and trust. They underscored the importance of ongoing training and skills development, particularly analytical reasoning and critical thinking, so that professionals remain competent and exercise sound judgment amid technological advancements.

Technology Experts Group (TEG)

3. The TEG met virtually³ to update the TWG on the results of its environmental scanning. The TWG will brief the Board on the highlights of the meeting.

Technology Working Group (TWG)

4. The TWG met virtually⁴ to reflect on the environmental scanning update received from the TEG.
5. During its November 2025 call, the TWG discussed its draft work plan for H1 2026 as well as the agenda material for the December Board meeting.

Draft Work Plan

6. In H1 2026, the TWG's draft work plan emphasizes the transition from completed projects to practical impact, while sustaining momentum on ongoing initiatives. With the new technology-related provisions in the Code now in effect, the focus is on embedding these standards into practice and monitoring their impact.
7. Concurrently, ongoing efforts such as quarterly environmental scanning of emerging technology trends and close coordination with the IAASB and other partners are being maintained to support the continued relevance and forward-looking nature of the ethical framework in the Code as it pertains to technology.
8. In H1 2026, the TWG plans to refresh non-authoritative guidance the IESBA has issued and pursue other guidance materials and other initiatives to support professional accountants in navigating evolving technologies. These initiatives include:
 - Developing new guidance on applying the Code's principles to emerging technologies (such as artificial intelligence) for professional accountants in both public practice and business;
 - Updating existing guidance which was issued before the technology-related revisions came into effect; and
 - Exploring innovative digital tools to better engage stakeholders.

Action Requested

9. IESBA members are asked to consider the TWG's update, including the draft workplan for H1 2026, and share any comments or questions.

³ November 10th, 2025

⁴ November 10th, 2025