

**Meeting:** IESBA

**Meeting Location:** New York

**Meeting Date:** June 8-11, 2026

## Agenda Item **12**

### **IESBA Strategic Priorities**

#### **Objective of Agenda Item**

1. To consider the need for any adjustments to the IESBA's strategic priorities for the next 12 months and related resource allocations, taking into account the status of the current work streams in light of the deliberations at the June 2026 Board meeting, emerging issues, and available resources.

#### **Mid-Year Strategic Review**

2. At its June 2026 meeting, the Board will discuss the following key work streams:
  - Firm, culture and governance (FCG)
  - Private equity investment in accounting firms (PEI)
  - Technology
  - Role of Chief Financial Officers (CFOs)
  - Development of independence standards for sustainability assurance engagements not within the scope of the International Independence Standards in Part 5 of the Code (Part 4B Sustainability)
  - Adoption and implementation
3. These discussions will inform a mid-year strategic review by the Board, taking into account also the following:
  - Developments in the external environment and related stakeholder input
  - Ongoing governance and organizational developments relating to the International Foundation of Ethics and Audit (IFEA).
  - The Board's initial consideration of the high-level overview of responses to the IAASB-IESBA joint stakeholder survey on the two Boards' 2028–2031 Strategies and Work Plans (SWPs) under **Agenda Item 6**
  - The current IESBA work plan for the next 12 months (see **Appendix 1**)
  - Other initiatives and topics of interest in the 2024–2027 SWP (see **Appendix 2**)
4. This mid-year review is intended to enable the Board to take a more holistic view of its strategic priorities by considering them in an integrated, timely and responsive way rather than assessing each work stream in isolation or awaiting the finalization of the 2028-2031 SWP in Q4 2027.

**Action Requested**

5. IESBA members are asked to:
  - (a) Consider the matters highlighted in paragraphs 2 and 3; and
  - (b) Share views on whether any adjustments should be made to the IESBA's strategic priorities for the next 12 months and related resource allocations.

## Appendix 1

### IESBA Work Plan 2026-2027

The project timetable below outlines milestones and deliverables for ongoing and new work streams anticipated on the IESBA's agenda over the next 12 months. It also includes other activities to highlight the resources needed to accomplish proposed projects and initiatives. The project timetable is updated on a quarterly basis. Changes may be made without prior notice.

Projects/Initiatives	2026			2027
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Firm Culture and Governance	Approach to FCG Framework	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion
Strategy & Work Plan 2028-2031	Review of Survey Feedback	Draft Consultation Paper	Approve Consultation Paper	–
Private Equity Investments (PEI)	Terms of Reference	Discussion	Discussion	Final Report and Recommendations
Technology Working Group (TWG)	Draft NAM	Draft NAM	Draft NAM	TBD
Restructured Code Post-Implementation Review (PIR)	–	Review of Survey Feedback	Final Report and Recommendations	TBD
NOCLAR PIR	–		Review of Survey Feedback	Final Report and Recommendations
Role of Chief Finance Officers (CFOs)	Review of Preliminary Findings	Final Report and Recommendations	TBD	–
Development of Profession-Agnostic Independence Standards for SAEs not Within the Scope of IIS in Part 5	Final Report and Recommendations	TBD	–	–
CIVs and Pension Funds – Auditor Independence	TBD	–	–	–
Adoption and Implementation Working Group (A&I WG)	A&I Activities	A&I Activities	A&I Activities	A&I Activities
Sustainability – IESSA Implementation Monitoring Advisory Group (IIMAG)	Discussion	Stock-take and Action Determination	TBD	–
Trends and Risks Committee (TRC)	Update	–	Update	–
IESBA – IAASB Coordination	–	Update	–	Update
IESBA SMART	Update	Update	Update	Update

## Appendix 2

### SWP 2024-2027 – Other Work Streams and Initiatives

1. The following is a list of work streams in the current SWP (2024-2027) that have not yet commenced as of Q2 2026:

Work Streams	Anticipated Demand on Resources
Business Relationships	High
Audit Firm – Audit Client Relationship	Medium
Exploring Extending the Impact of the Code to All Preparers of Sustainability Information	High
Post-Implementation Review (PIR) – Long Association Phase 2	Medium
PIR – Non-Assurance Services and Fees	High
PIR – Definition of Public Interest Entity	Medium
PIR – Engagement Team – Group Audits	Medium

2. The current SWP has also identified a number of topics of interest for the Board's consideration, subject to agenda capacity and resources:

Topic of Interest	Anticipated Demand on Resources
Definitions and Descriptions of Terms	Medium
Custody of Data	Medium
Communication with Those Charged with Governance	Low

3. Refer to the [current SWP](#) for more information about the above work streams and topics.