Meeting:	IESBA	**Agenda Item**
Meeting Location:	Virtual	**2**
Meeting Date:	October 29, 2026	

IESBA Strategy and Work Plan (SWP) 2028-2031

Objective

1. To consider the general approach to, and structural elements of, the first draft of the Consultation Paper (CP) on the IESBA SWP 2028-2031.

Activities since the September 2026 IESBA Meeting

September 2026 IESBA Meeting

2. At its September 2026 meeting, the IESBA considered the full analysis of responses to the joint International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) - IESBA strategy survey. The IESBA also considered the Joint IAASB-IESBA Working Group and Staff's (JWG&S) initial views on the survey responses as a basis for both Boards to develop their respective CPs. Additionally, the IESBA provided input on the key trends and possible strategic objectives for the IESBA's SWP 2028–2031.

3. While generally supportive of the overall direction, the IESBA:

   - Supported reducing the number of possible strategic objectives from six to four, including by addressing the strategic focus on professional accountants in business (PAIBs) and professional accountants in public practice (PAPPs) other than auditors explicitly across all the strategic objectives.
   - Cautioned against an over-ambitious work plan and called for more focused priorities that leave flexibility and capacity to address new or emerging issues.

4. There was also a request to better explain how stakeholder feedback from the joint survey had been taken into account in the trends and strategic objectives.

October 2026 Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting

5. The IAASB and the IESBA held a joint session at the October 2026 SAC meeting to provide an update on the responses to the joint survey and the two Boards' respective September 2026 discussions.

6. SAC members also shared views in breakout groups on the possible strategic objectives and lists of targeted outcomes, with two groups focused on the IESBA's possible strategic objectives and the other two on the IAASB's draft strategic insights.

7. Staff will provide an update on the SAC feedback at this Board meeting.

Coordination with the IAASB

8. IAASB and IESBA Staff have worked in close coordination to align the two Boards' draft CPs on common aspects of the SWPs.

9. The JWG will meet in November 2026 to discuss the approach to potential joint actions in the two Boards' CPs.

Matters for IESBA Consideration

10. The first draft of the CP set out in **Agenda Item 2-A** includes the following:
    (a) Key feedback from the joint survey, four environmental trends and related strategic insights;
    (b) Four proposed strategic objectives;
    (c) Strategic actions under each strategic objective;
    (d) A tentative work plan; and
    (e) An appendix listing possible initiatives and activities grouped by strategic action.
11. Other components of the CP, such as the IESBA's vision and a possible articulation of the IESBA's value proposition, will be included in the next version for the IESBA's consideration at its December 2026 meeting.
12. IESBA members are asked to share views on:
    (a) The general approach to the draft CP;
    (b) The flow and linkages between the structural elements listed in paragraph 10(a) – (e) above;
    (c) Whether appropriate linkages have been made to the key feedback from the joint survey; and
    (d) Any other matters pertaining to the direction of travel in drafting the CP.
13. IESBA members will have the opportunity to discuss the revised draft of the CP in more detail at the December 2026 Board meeting.

Next Steps

14. Taking into account IESBA members' input and the outcome of the JWG's November 2026 meeting, Staff will revise the draft CP, in consultation with the IESBA leadership and the Planning Committee, for the IESBA's consideration at its December 2026 meeting.
15. Subject to the IESBA's approval, the CP is expected to be published for public consultation in Q1 2027. Both Boards' SWPs for 2028-2031 are targeted for approval in December 2027.

Materials Presented

For Discussion

Agenda Item 2A	Draft Consultation Paper

For Reference

Agenda Item 2B	How the Draft Consultation Paper Responds to the Joint Survey Feedback