

**Audits of Less Complex Entities**

***Furthering the Debate on Applying the ISAs in Audits of Less Complex Entities***

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The International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) has published a Discussion Paper, [\*Audits of Less Complex Entities: Exploring Possible Options to Address the Challenges in Applying the International Standards on Auditing \(ISAs\)\*](#). Through the Discussion Paper, the IAASB seeks to further understand the challenges of using International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) in audits of less complex entities and the views about possible actions to address those challenges.

The IAASB recognises the global call for action to address issues of complexity, length, understandability, scalability and proportionality in relation to using the ISAs. Continuing the debate on these strategic issues, the Discussion Paper explores how the IAASB, and others, could further support auditors working in increasingly evolving environments. The South African landscape for the audit of companies is influenced by the role of the so called 'PIS score'. However, audits are also mandated for entities other than companies, which may differ vastly in complexity. This Discussion Paper, therefore, is relevant to regulators, preparers, those charged with governance, other stakeholders and auditors across a wide range of industries.

**Request for Comments**

The IRBA welcomes comments regarding the Discussion Paper for consideration, as we prepare our response to the IAASB. Comments should be submitted by 29 August 2019 via email to [standards@irba.co.za](mailto:standards@irba.co.za) in Word and PDF formats. All comments will be considered as a public record.

Alternatively, we invite registered auditors and other interested parties to submit comments directly to the IAASB via the [IAASB website](#) by 12 September 2019. Respondents are asked to submit their comments electronically (as both PDF and Word files).

Copies of the exposure draft are available in PDF format and may be downloaded from the exposure drafts page on the [IRBA website](#).

**Imran Vanker**

**Director: Standards**

***About the IRBA***

*The objective of the IRBA is to endeavour to protect the financial interests of the South African public and international investors in South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of audits conducted by registered auditors, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes.*