

IESBA Launches the eCode

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The International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) released its eCode - a web-based tool that delivers the *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (the IESBA Code) - on a digital platform on 26 June 2019.

This tool includes 'app-like' features and functionalities, such as an interactive table of contents, pop-ups with definitions and descriptions of terms as well as hyperlinks highlighting cross-references within the IESBA Code. This initiative highlights the IESBA Code's 'building blocks' architecture and scalability.

'The eCode is an innovative response to stakeholder calls for more support for implementation,' said Dr Stavros Thomadakis, IESBA Chairman. 'Technology opens many opportunities for enhancement to the user experience, and with the eCode we have sought creative and appealing ways to do so. We firmly believe the eCode will greatly facilitate adoption, consistent application and enforcement of the Code in the public interest.'

Also speaking on the release, IESBA Senior Technical Director, Ken Siong, said: 'The launch of the eCode is timely as the Restructured and Revised Code came into effect [last month].' Technology is rapidly transforming the ways of work and how information is accessed and used. It is therefore apt to see the Code, now accessible on a digital platform which users will find familiar and intuitive.'

Registered auditors may find the eCode helpful as the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised November 2018) (IRBA Code) is based on Parts 1, 3, 4A and 4B of the IESBA Code. However, registered auditors should exercise caution when using the eCode as it **does not include** South African adaptations and amendments to the IESBA Code, which appear underlined and in italics in the IRBA Code.

The eCode is available free-of-charge at www.IESBAeCode.org.

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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.