

# IRBA NEWS

ISSUE 64 OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023

## ***PROMISING SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT***

**Despite some setbacks,  
our collective efforts to  
reposition the profession are  
worth noting**

**3**

*IRBA Prescribes Four  
Rules Arising from the  
International Standards  
on Quality Management*

**23**

*A Fit and Proper Policy  
for Registered Auditors  
Now in Place*

**30**

*A Glimpse at the  
Recent Challenges and  
Accomplishments with  
Investigations*

*Photo by Kelly Ishmael on StockSnap*

# CONTENTS

CEO's Perspective 01

Standards 03

Ethics 10

Legal 14

Registry 20

Investigations 25

Inspections 32

Education and Transformation 36

Communications 43

General News 44

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**Imre Nagy**  
Chief Executive Officer

# CEO'S PERSPECTIVE

## THE EVIDENCE OF THE JOINT EFFORTS TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IS UNDENIABLE

It has been a couple of years since the profession and all its relevant stakeholders embarked on the difficult journey aimed at restoring confidence. The hard work invested by everyone has shown improvements, as witnessed in the results reflected in the Edelman Trust Barometer Report issued in October 2023. More than 1 000 respondents participated in an independently conducted international trust survey across eight countries, and they rated South African auditors highest (84%) on trust overall. This is a 10 percentage point increase from the 74% reflected in the previous study conducted in 2021.

Trust in chartered accountants has also increased since 2021, from 74% to 84%. Just over 95% (84% country average) of respondents said that external audit provides a valuable service to the corporate sector, while 89% (75% country average) indicated that external audit facilitates economic growth in South Africa.

Although this independent survey is not necessarily an absolute measure of trust in South African auditors, the increase in perceived trust among financial decision-makers and the positive feedback received from our key stakeholders, support the positive steps we have taken as the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) and the auditing profession, through extensive stakeholder engagement, over the past few years to restore confidence and trust in our profession, following the state capture era. While there is still a lot of work to be done by the audit profession to build and ultimately maintain trust, we are pleased with the achievements made so far and must continue to build on them.

### **Audit Quality Improvements**

Our recently published [2023 Audit Quality Indicators \(AQIs\) Survey Report](#) reflects on a year that has shown some progress in the auditing profession. The report indicates that in relation to the relevant quality indicators, firms have stayed on course in their commitment to transparency and continuous improvement. The commitment to quality has been evident through the implementation of new features in firms' internal monitoring systems, along with the recent introduction of the International Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*.



As we look ahead, we are confident that the insights from this report will guide our efforts to further enhance audit quality. We are committed to working with all stakeholders, including audit firms, those who appoint them and other interested parties, to drive continuous improvement in the auditing profession.

## Innovation in Auditing

We recently hosted the inaugural virtual IRBA Innovation Day. While we acknowledge that innovation extends beyond technology, we also recognise that it is at the forefront of transforming the landscape as we know it. The presenters explored the multi-dimensions of innovation, delving into the possibilities that these advances hold for the world of audit and the enhancement of audit quality. More than 400 individuals attended the event. The [recording and presentation slides](#) are now accessible, providing an opportunity for others to be inspired by the advancements that are shaping the future of audit.

As the year draws to a close, I want to thank our staff and all our stakeholders for the invaluable input and collaboration on the various projects that the IRBA has implemented this year. It is only through co-operation that we can continue to thrive as a profession. I wish you all and your loved ones safe and restful holidays, until we meet in the new year to continue to serve the public interest.

**Imre Nagy**  
CEO





**Imran Vanker**  
Director Standards

# STANDARDS

## TOPICS IN THIS ISSUE

- Standards:
  - IRBA Prescribes Four Rules Arising from the International Standards on Quality Management.
  - Recording and Presentation Slides Now Available: IRBA Innovation Day 2023 – Shaping the Future of Audit.
  - Adoption of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) 2022 Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements in terms of the Auditing Profession Act 26 of 2005, as amended.
  - Exposure Draft: Proposed Guide for Registered Auditors (Revised), Joint Audit Engagements.
  - REMINDER: Effective Date of the International Standard on Auditing 600 (Revised): Special Considerations – Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors).
  - Health warning inserted on the Guide for Registered Auditors – Reporting on Financial Information contained in Interim, Preliminary, Provisional and Abridged Reports required by the JSE Listings Requirements.
  - IAASB Projects in Progress.
- Ethics:
  - Final Pronouncement: Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors.
  - Final Pronouncement: Technology-related Revisions to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors.
  - IESBA Projects in Progress.

## IRBA PRESCRIBES FOUR RULES ARISING FROM THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ON QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The IRBA has prescribed the IRBA Rules Arising from the International Standards on Quality Management (QM L&R Rules) that will be applicable as follows:

- IRBA Rule 1 (Ultimate Responsibility and Accountability for the System of Quality Management), IRBA Rule 2 (Transparency Reports) and IRBA Rule 3 (Engagement Quality Reviewer (EQR) and an Assistant to an EQR) are effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2025. Early adoption is permitted.

- IRBA Rule 4 (Assembly and Retention of Audit Documentation) is effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2024. Early adoption is permitted.

The QM L&R Rules culminate from the consultation and recommendations to the IRBA Board from the Committee for Auditing Standards (CFAS). The due process followed included an exposure draft that was issued on exposure on 14 June 2022 (Government Gazette No. 46649 on 1 July 2022 and Board Notice 302 of 2022). During this exposure period, awareness of the proposals, among others, was created through the following outreach activities:

- Presenting the exposure draft at the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants' (SAICA) 2022 TechTalk Series: SAICA Standards July session, held on 28 July 2022; and
- Sharing the exposure draft with SAICA's CFO Forum and the Institute of Directors South Africa's Audit Committee Forum, to obtain comments from their members.

We were pleased with the number, breadth and extent of the responses, which accompanied the outreach efforts. The success of the exposure activities supports the commitment to research-based standard-setting as well as our multi-stakeholder approach to standard-setting in the public interest. Comments received on the public exposure are available for viewing on the [IRBA's website](#).

The finalised QM L&R Rules arise from the IRBA's objective "to endeavour to protect the financial interests of South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of assurance conducted by registered assurance providers, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes". Consequently, the application of these QM L&R Rules will promote and enhance audit quality, as they respond to provisions in the 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, and ISQM 2, Engagement Quality Reviews (QM standards).

The provisions indicate that local jurisdictions may have in place (or may issue) local laws, regulations or relevant ethical requirements that relate to the QM standards. To that end, the application of the QM standards, together with these rules, will further support the initiatives to restore confidence in the auditing profession.

The QM L&R Rules are prescribed pursuant to Section 10 of the Auditing Profession Act No. 26 of 2005, as amended (APA), by notice via Government Gazette No. 49757 on 24 November 2023 (Board Notice 512 of 2023).

To download the QM L&R Rules, visit the [IRBA website](#).

## **RECORDING AND PRESENTATION SLIDES NOW AVAILABLE: IRBA INNOVATION DAY 2023 – SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AUDIT**

The IRBA recently hosted the inaugural IRBA Innovation Day. We see innovation as extending beyond technology, and also recognise that technology is at the forefront of this transformation. The presenters explored innovation's multi-dimensions, exploring the possibilities that these advances hold for the world of audit and the enhancement of audit quality. More than 400 people attended the event. The recording and presentation slides are now accessible, providing an opportunity for others to be inspired by the innovative advancements shaping the future of audit.

The event had two segments that offered insights into innovation's transformative power and practical application as summarised below.

#### Segment 1: Innovation 101

- From Compliance to Alliance: Embracing a Modernised Competency Framework in Pursuit of Sustained Relevance in the Future World of Work, presented by [Anton van Wyk](#) (Managing Director at CPD Campus).
- Unlocking Innovation – “The Expedition Way”, presented by [Coenraad Middel](#) (Founder and Chair at Middel & Partners Inc).
- Emotional wellbeing: A prerequisite for innovation, presented by [Zuleka Jasper](#) (Leadership & Master Life Transformation Coach).

#### Segment 2: Innovation in Practice

- Synergy in Action: Empowering Auditing with Generative AI for Efficient Compliance and Future-ready Practices, presented by [Amé Thwaites](#) (EY Africa Assurance Innovation & Digital Leader).
- Caseware IDEA: Use Data Analytics & Drive the Quality of the Analysis, presented by [Christiaan Steyn](#) (Product Manager: Assurance at Caseware Africa).
- The Future of the Audit Profession, presented by [Thandokuhle Myoli](#) (Executive for Audit and Assurance at SAICA).
- Sustainability Assurance: Rising to the Challenge, presented by [Antonis Diolas](#) (Head of Audit and Assurance at the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants).

The recording of the webinar and the presentation slides can be accessed on the IRBA's website by [clicking on this link](#).

## COMMITTEE FOR AUDITING STANDARDS

### **Adoption of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) 2022 Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements in terms of the Auditing Profession Act 26 of 2005, as amended**

The IRBA draws the attention of all registered auditors (RAs) to [Board Notice No. 509 of 2023](#) (Government Gazette No. 49720, 17 November 2023) titled “The Adoption of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) 2022 Handbooks of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements in terms of the Auditing Profession Act 26 of 2005, as amended”.

To that end, the IRBA hereby resolves to adopt, issue and prescribe the following publications:

- Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2022 Edition, Volume 1, ISBN: 978-1-60815-546-0.
- Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2022 Edition, Volume 2, ISBN: 978-1-60815-546-0.
- Supplement to the Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2022 Edition, Volume 3, ISBN: 978-1-60815-546-0.

These publications replace the following issues:

- Handbook of International Quality Control, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2021 Edition, Volume I, ISBN 978-1-60815-507-1;
- Handbook of International Quality Control, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance; and
- Related Services Pronouncements, 2021 Edition, Volume II, ISBN 978-1-60815-507-1; and Supplement to the Handbook of International Quality Control, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2021 Edition, Volume III, ISBN 978-1-60815-507-1.

The latest edition of the handbook includes:

- The IAASB's new and revised suite of Quality Management standards:
  - ISQM 1, Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements.
  - ISQM 2, Engagement Quality Reviews.
  - International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 220 (Revised), Quality Management for an Audit of Financial Statements.
  - Conforming and Consequential Amendments to Other ISAs Arising from the Quality Management Project.
  - Conforming and Consequential Amendments to the IAASB's Other Standards as a Result of the New and Revised Quality Management Standards.
- The International Standard on Related Services (ISRS) 4400 (Revised), Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagements.
- The following standards – that are not yet effective for this version of the handbook – have, however, been included in the back of Volume 1:
  - ISA 600 (Revised), Special Considerations – Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors).
  - Conforming and Consequential Amendments to Other International Standards arising from ISA 600 (Revised).

References to the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants must be read in conjunction with the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised April 2023) (IRBA Code), which has additional requirements for RAs in South Africa.

These 2022 publications are issued by the IRBA under the following copyright permission from the International Federation of Accountants:

*“The Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2022 Edition is based on the Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements, 2022 Edition of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, published by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) in October 2023 and is used with permission of IFAC.*

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By virtue of having adopted the above-noted publications, the Board deems them to have been prescribed without the publication of the entire books. As such, it hereby communicates their adoption to RAs and also makes them available on the [IRBA website](#). The IRBA Code and subsequent amendments are also available on the [IRBA website](#).

SAICA also publishes the IRBA auditing pronouncements in its 2023/2024 SAICA Student Handbook.



## Exposure Draft: Proposed Guide for Registered Auditors (Revised), Joint Audit Engagements

The IRBA's CFAS has approved, for issue, the [Exposure Draft: Proposed Guide for Registered Auditors \(Revised\), Joint Audit Engagements](#) (proposed Guide (Revised)). The Exposure Draft (ED) was approved for exposure in November 2023 for a 90-day period, for public comment by **29 February 2024**.

The CFAS Task Group that developed the proposed Guide (Revised) comprised technical staff representatives from auditing firms, SAICA and the IRBA.

The proposed Guide (Revised) provides guidance to registered auditors (auditors) on the application of ISAs and IRBA pronouncements when auditors or firms perform a joint audit engagement.

South African Guides are authoritative pronouncements and their authority is set out in the [Status and Authority of Auditing Pronouncements](#). However, guides do not impose requirements on auditors beyond those included in the International or South African Standards on Quality Control, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance and Related Services or South African regulatory requirements. Also, they do not change an auditor's responsibility to comply, in all material respects, with the requirements of the International or South African Standards or with South African regulatory requirements relevant to the audit, review, other assurance or related services engagement.

Accordingly, the auditor will have to exercise professional judgement to determine the extent to which any of the guidance provided in this proposed Guide (Revised) may be appropriate, in light of the requirements of the ISAs and the particular circumstances of the joint audit engagement.

### Scope of the Proposed Amendments

The proposed Guide (Revised) contains significant proposed amendments regarding sources of information and/or procedures that a joint auditor may consider in satisfying themselves that there are sufficient appropriate systems of quality management (SOQM) in place at each firm that is party to the joint audit engagement. As a result, SOQM is addressed through the following:

- Introduction of a new attachment, Appendix 3, in the ED concerning topics and/or aspects a joint auditor may consider in gaining an understanding of another joint auditor's SOQM;
- Relevant requirements of ISQM 1 form part of the ED;
- Requirements of ISA 220 (Revised) that are of relevance have been introduced into the ED; and
- Paragraph 45 of the ED has been updated to reference paragraph A30 of ISQM 2, regarding factors that may impact the nature and extent of the engagement quality reviewer's procedures for a specific engagement.

In addition, the following amendments have been incorporated into this proposed Guide (Revised):

- Updates for references to the IRBA Code; ISA 220 (Revised), paragraph A21A; and ISA 600 (Revised), Special Considerations – Audit of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors), paragraph A25.
- Paragraph 9 of the ED refers to South African firms performing joint audit engagements. The task group concluded that this adjustment would be a better reflection of the objective of the APA.
- All references to the IRBA's Mandatory Audit Firm Rotation Rule have been removed, as a result of the [Supreme Court of Appeal Judgment](#) setting aside the Rule in May 2023.

## Proposed Effective Date

Depending on the comments received, the plan is that the CFAS will approve the final Guide in May 2024. Afterwards, it will be issued in that same month, with such approval and issue being noted at the subsequent meeting of the IRBA Board. Then, the final Guide (Revised) will be effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 31 December 2024, with early adoption permitted.

## Request for Comments

The CFAS welcomes comments from auditors and other interested parties on all matters addressed in the ED. It also seeks responses to the specific questions set out in Section 5 of the Explanatory Memorandum. Comments, in Word format, should be submitted via email to [standards@irba.co.za](mailto:standards@irba.co.za). All comments will be considered as a public record.

The submission deadline for comments to the IRBA is 29 February 2024. To download the ED, visit the [IRBA website](#).

## **REMINDER: Effective Date of ISA 600 (Revised): Special Considerations – Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)**

The IAASB issued ISA 600 (Revised), which was adopted, and prescribed by the Board of the IRBA on 29 July 2022. Registered auditors and others are reminded that ISA 600 (Revised) and the related Conforming and Consequential Amendments to Other International Standards become effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2023. As previously announced, the IRBA has permitted and encouraged early adoption.

ISA 600 (Revised) includes new and revised requirements and application material that better aligns the standard with recently revised standards, such as ISQM 1, ISA 220 (Revised) and ISA 315 (Revised 2019), Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement. These new and revised requirements also strengthen the auditor's responsibilities in relation to professional scepticism; planning and performing a group audit; two-way communications between the group auditor and component auditors; and documentation.

The standard clarifies how the requirements in ISA 220 (Revised) apply to manage and achieve audit quality in a group audit, including sufficient and appropriate resources to perform the engagement, as well as the direction and supervision of the engagement team and the review of its work.

Further, ISA 600 (Revised) describes the various types of restrictions that may exist, such as those on access to people and information (e.g. access to component management, those charged with governance of the component, component auditors, or information at the component) and component auditor audit documentation. The revised standard also provides guidance on ways to overcome such restrictions. It also explains how the concepts of materiality and aggregation risk apply in a group audit.

In addition, ISA 600 (Revised) includes enhanced documentation requirements and application material to emphasise the linkage to the requirements in ISA 230, Audit Documentation, and the documentation requirements in other relevant ISAs. The revised standard also clarifies what the group auditor may need to document in different situations, including when there are restrictions on access to component auditor audit documentation.

Auditors are also reminded of the following IRBA communication that is of relevance and available on its website:

- [Revisions to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct \(Revised April 2023\) to Strengthen and Clarify the Independence Requirements for Group Audits.](#)

ISA 600 (Revised) and the related Conforming and Consequential Amendments to Other International Standards can be downloaded from the [IRBA website](#). Auditors may also refer to the [IAASB website](#).

## **Health Warning Inserted on the Guide for Registered Auditors – Reporting on Financial Information Contained in Interim, Preliminary, Provisional and Abridged Reports Required by the JSE Listings Requirements**

The guide became effective for an auditor's report on an issuer's interim, preliminary, provisional and abridged report issued on or after 31 March 2017. At that time, the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Listings Requirements governed the preparation and publication of interim, preliminary, provisional and abridged reports by issuers. They also specified whether an issuer's auditor is required to audit or review these reports.

On 19 June 2023, [the JSE published amendments to the JSE Listings Requirements](#) that, among others, included [amendments to financial reporting disclosures](#). It also [announced](#) that the Financial Sector Conduct Authority published the approval of the amendments to the JSE Listings Requirements in Government Gazette No. 48790 through Board Notice 450 of 2023, with the effective date as 17 July 2023.

The JSE communicated the [transitional arrangements](#), which required the financial reporting disclosures, as per the amendments schedule to be applied to results (both interim and year-end), for periods ending on or after 30 June 2023.

Registered auditors are alerted to the fact that the amendments to the JSE Listings Requirements have removed the need for abridged reports and deleted the requirements and definitions of preliminary and provisional reports. If this guide is used, it should be considered with the amendments to the JSE Listings Requirements.

## **IAASB Projects in Progress**

- Assurance on Sustainability/Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Reporting;
- Fraud;
- Going Concern;
- Audits of Financial Statements of Less Complex Entities (LCE);
- Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity (PIEs) (Track 2);
- Audit Evidence; and
- Technology.

More information on these projects is available on the [IAASB website](#).

# ETHICS

## INTERNATIONAL ETHICS STANDARDS BOARD FOR ACCOUNTANTS (IESBA)

### Final Pronouncement: Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors

In October 2023, the IRBA approved the Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity (PIE) in the IRBA Code, for prescription and use by registered auditors. Board Notice 511 of 2023 was published in Government Gazette No. 497 57 on 24 November 2023. These revisions comprehensively revise the definitions, approach, categories and thresholds applicable to these entities. They will impact many engagement partners and firms, and involve engagement with those charged with governance and users.

#### Background

The IRBA adopted the IESBA Code, published in 2018, together with South African enhancements. Since then, the IRBA Code tracks changes in the IESBA Code and is updated for those developments, following a local due process and adoption by the IRBA Board. Local adaptations of the IESBA Code are reflected in the IRBA Code as underlined and in italics.

Prior to these revisions, paragraphs **R400.8a SA** to **R400.8c SA** of the IRBA Code included South African requirements relating to the definition of a public interest entity (PIE). These local requirements were issued on 4 March 2016, came into effect on 1 July 2016 and were in addition to the extant requirements of the IESBA Code.

#### IESBA Amendments and the Process Followed in South Africa

On 29 January 2021, the IESBA released, for public comment, the Exposure Draft, Proposed Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the Code. In South Africa, the IRBA gazetted these proposed amendments (Board Notice 15 of 2021). Thereafter, on 11 April 2022, the IESBA released a final pronouncement on the revised definition of a public interest entity (alongside its Basis for Conclusions). The revised provisions specify a broader list of categories of entities as PIEs whose audits should be subject to additional independence requirements, to meet stakeholders' heightened expectations concerning auditor independence.

After the IESBA pronouncement, the IRBA commenced a process for potential revisions to cater for local requirements, in line with its due process. The IRBA released a communiqué explaining the local process and stages of adoption.



## Key Revisions

Among other matters, the revisions:

- Include an expanded definition of “public interest entity” in the IRBA Code by specifying a broader list of PIE categories, as well as the new “publicly traded entity” category that replaces “listed entity”.
- Introduce a transparency requirement for firms to publicly disclose the application of independence requirements for PIEs.

The revised provisions also recognise the essential role that local bodies responsible for the adoption of the IESBA Code play in delineating the specific entities that should be scoped in as PIEs in their jurisdictions. They also encourage these bodies to refine the PIE categories in the expanded definition and add any other categories that may be relevant to their environments.

As such, the local adaptations, among other matters, include:

- Revisions to the South African requirements relating to the definition of PIE in paragraph **R400.23 SA**.
- A new paragraph, **400.22 SA**, which clarifies that a client’s public interest score, as calculated in terms of the South African Companies Act No. 71 of 2008 (as amended) should not be used to determine whether the client is a PIE in terms of the IRBA Code. The two concepts of public interest entity and public interest score should not be confused or used interchangeably.

## Local Due Process and Adoption by the IRBA Board

The IRBA issued Exposure Draft: Proposed Amendments to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors – Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity on 7 December 2022, for public comment. The 3rd of April 2023 was the due date for comments. Then, the Committee for Auditor Ethics considered the comments received and in August 2023 recommended the Final Pronouncement: Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors to the IRBA Board for issue, prescription and use by registered auditors.

## Effective Date

The Revisions to the Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity Definitions in the IRBA Code (Revised April 2023) are effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2024. Early adoption has been permitted.

## Implementation Support

The following enablement material is available on the IESBA website:

- Staff Questions and Answers: Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the Code.
- Staff Questions and Answers: Revised Non-Assurance Services Provisions of the Code – Guidance for Professional Accountants in Public Practice in Relation to Audits of Financial Statements of Public Interest Entities.

The Final Pronouncement is available in a PDF format and may be downloaded from the IRBA website.

## Final Pronouncement: Technology-related Revisions to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors

The IRBA draws the attention of all registered auditors to the Final Pronouncement: Technology-related Revisions to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors. These revisions will guide the ethical mindset and behaviour of registered auditors, as they take advantage of the opportunities technology is creating and adapting to new technology. Developed to remain relevant and applicable in the ever-evolving landscape of technology transformation, the revisions apply to the use of any technology, including, to the extent possible, future technologies.

### Significant Amendments

The approved amendments focus on several key areas, including:

- Professional Skills (Section 113);
- Confidentiality (Section 114);
- Complex Circumstances (Section 120);
- Use of Technology (Sections 300 and 320);
- Close Business Relationships (Section 520); and
- Hosting (Subsection 606).

These amendments highlight the importance of professional competence and due care as well as confidentiality, and also address complexity, particularly in the context of technology-related developments.

### Key Changes and Practical Implications

- **Professional Competence and Due Care:** The revisions underscore the need for registered auditors to assess their competence to handle engagements, especially in the context of technology. This emphasises the importance of staying updated with technological advancements.
- **Confidentiality:** The amendments highlight the critical nature of maintaining confidentiality throughout the data collection process, and provide guidelines in circumstances where authorisation to use or disclose confidential information may be required.
- **Complexity:** Registered auditors are now required to address inherent complexities in their professional services explicitly. This includes managing uncertainties, monitoring changes in facts and circumstances, in addition to investigating uncertain elements.
- **Use of Technology:** Registered auditors may have to adapt their policies and methodologies to identify and evaluate threats associated with technology use, and also improve their understanding of the impact on engagements.
- **Independence Standards:** Registered auditors may need to review and update their independence policies and processes, particularly in relation to technology-related non-assurance services provided to audit clients.

### South African Adaptations and Amendments to the IRBA Code

Consistent with the extant IRBA Code, the reference to “professional accountant” and/or “accountant” in the amendments to the IRBA Final Pronouncement has been replaced with the term “registered auditor”.

It should be noted that paragraphs **R113.4 SA**, **R300.5**, **300.5 A1 SA** and **300.5 A1**, which contain South African Adaptations and Amendments, are not affected by these revisions and have been carried over from the extant IRBA Code without further amendments.

## Effective Date

- Revisions to Parts 1 to 3 will be effective as of 15 December 2024.
- Revisions to Part 4A will be effective for audits and reviews of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2024.
- The conforming and consequential amendments to Part 4B in relation to assurance engagements with respect to underlying subject matters covering periods of time will be effective for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2024; otherwise, these amendments will be effective as of 15 December 2024.

Early adoption has been permitted.

## Implementation Material

The following implementation material is available on the IESBA website:

- [IESBA Technology Webinar April 2022 – YouTube](#)
- [Exploring the IESBA Code: A Focus on Technology | IFAC](#)
- [Applying the Code's Conceptual Framework to Independence | Ethics Board | Practical Guidance for Auditors in Technology-related Scenarios](#)
- [Ethical Leadership in A Digital Era: Applying the IESBA Code to Selected Technology Related Scenarios | Ethics Board](#)

## Due Process

The adoption of these revisions to the IESBA Code, published in April 2023, follows the local issue of the Exposure Draft, Proposed Technology-related Revisions to the Code (ED) for public comment via Government Gazette No. 46088 on 25 March 2022 (Board Notice 229 of 2022).

Board Notice 511 of 2023 was published in the Government Gazette on 24 November 2023, advising on the publication of the revisions to the IRBA Code, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10(1)(a) of the APA.

## IESBA Projects in Progress

- Tax Planning and Related Services;
- Sustainability; and
- Use of Experts.

More information on these projects is available on the [IESBA website](#).

Should you have any further queries, please email [standards@irba.co.za](mailto:standards@irba.co.za).

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Director Legal

# LEGAL

## DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

### Overview of the Matters Referred for Disciplinary Hearings

There are 18 open matters that have been referred to the Legal Department for disciplinary hearings. Four of these were referred during the current reporting period.

These open matters are at various stages of the disciplinary process. The graphics below outline the nature and status of all the matters that have been referred.

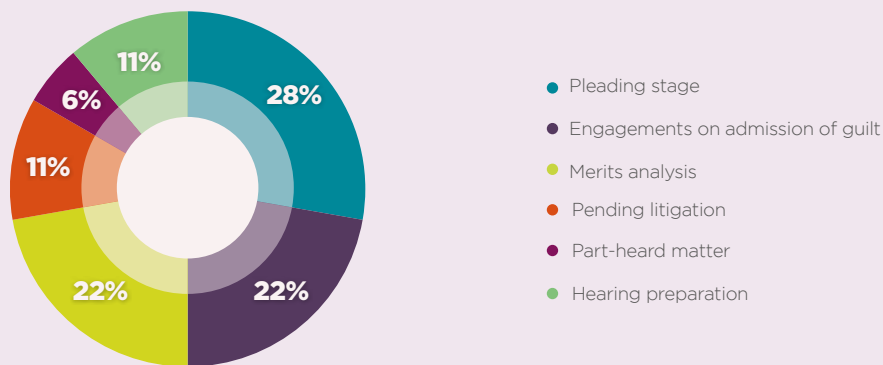
#### ANALYSIS OF CHARGES



**Note:** Overall, open matters involve 13 categories of improper conduct. While each matter may involve numerous charges, the most common charge relates to insufficient appropriate audit evidence, followed by the failure to report in terms of the Prevention and Combatting of Corrupt Activities Act (PRECCA), dishonesty and integrity charges, as well as accounting and tax breaches. The remainder of the charges relate to incorrect audit opinions; failure to declare assurance work; failure to report reportable irregularities (RIs); quality control failures; failure to document considerations; failure to exercise due care and skill; breach of executor or trustee duties; inadequate planning procedures; and failure to assemble or archive audit files.



## STATUS OF DISCIPLINARY MATTERS



**Note:** As reflected in the chart, most of the pending matters are at a pleading stage (28%), with 44% under-going settlement engagements and/or an analysis of charges. An additional 22% are either pending litigation or part-heard, while the remaining 6% of the matters are at a hearing preparation stage.

## Finalised Matters

During the period under review, five matters previously referred for disciplinary hearings were finalised. Four of these were finalised after the respondents admitted guilt in respect of the charges, and sanctions originally recommended by the Investigating Committee and approved by the Enforcement Committee were then imposed. The other matter was finalised after a disciplinary hearing.

Below is a summary of the finalised matters.

### IRBA vs JJ Pulker

The respondent was requested to setup a company on behalf of a foreign registered company for the hosting of a conference. The envisaged company was supposed to be registered for value-added tax (VAT) to allow the client to be able to claim a VAT refund for income and expenses incurred in relation to the conference. The respondent was, following an investigation, charged with improper conduct as a result of his failure to timeously communicate to the client the tax advice obtained on behalf of the client; failure to carry out the client's instruction in relation to the closure of two companies; and failure to appropriately answer to or deal with requests made by the IRBA and the complainant within a reasonable time.

The respondent admitted guilt and was fined R50 000; no order as to costs; and specific publication by the IRBA.

### IRBA vs JJ Pulker

The respondent was appointed to perform accounting services for a body corporate. Following an investigation into a complaint, he was charged with failure to account for a small portion of monies transferred from the body corporate's bank account into his personal bank account; incorrect statements made in his accounting officer's report in relation to the body corporate's obligation to conduct an audit, as per the requirements of the Sectional Titles Schemes Management Act; and failure to appropriately answer to or deal with requests made by the IRBA and the complainant within a reasonable time.

The respondent admitted guilt and was fined R150 000, of which R50 000 has been suspended for a period of five years, on condition that he is not found guilty of improper conduct committed during the suspension period. A previously suspended fine of R25 000 relating to prior improper conduct was also imposed. No cost order was made against him, but specific publication by the IRBA was ordered.

### IRBA vs Arno Paul Louw

The respondent was charged with three charges of improper conduct, as a result of his failure to report an RI to the IRBA, as required by Section 45 of the APA; failure to exercise the requisite professional scepticism in relation to the acceptance and continuing of engagements, despite adverse media allegations relating to the client and the resultant risk; and failure to declare to the IRBA an independent review performed.

The respondent admitted guilt and was fined R300 000, of which R150 000 has been suspended for a period of five years, on condition that he is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and specific publication by the IRBA.

### IRBA vs SW

The respondent was charged with improper conduct, as a result of his failure to discharge his duties as an executor of a deceased estate and as the trustee of a trust; failure to report an RI to the IRBA, as required by Section 45 of the APA; and failure to maintain independence in relation to his appointment as the executor and auditor of a company, and as the trustee and auditor of the trust.

The respondent pleaded guilty to the charges and was fined R200 000, of which R100 000 has been suspended for a period of five years, on condition he is not found guilty of improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; payment of R75 000 towards the costs incurred by the IRBA; and publication by the IRBA in general terms only.

### IRBA vs Gareth Phillipe Ducler Des Rauches

Mr Gareth Phillipe Ducler Des Rauches, a former RA registered with the IRBA and partner at Finance Spec, was appointed to assist an executor of a deceased estate in the administration of the estate. Subsequent to an investigation, he was charged with breaching Rules 2.6 and 2.17 of the Rules Regarding Improper Conduct, as a result of having unlawfully misappropriated a cumulative amount of R17.8 million from the deceased's estate bank account, which was transferred to his own personal bank accounts and other bank accounts related to him. He was further charged with a breach of Rule 2.13 for his failure to respond to correspondence from the IRBA.

The matter was heard by the Disciplinary Hearing Panel on 29 August 2023. Subsequently, the panel issued a ruling that found the respondent's conduct to have fallen hopelessly far from the high standards required from RAs. Thus, Mr Ducler Des Rauches was found guilty of improper conduct, as per the charges preferred. However, the imposition of the fine and costs order is subject to confirmation by the liquidators of Mr Ducler Des Rauches' insolvent estate of the estate's ability to satisfy both the fine and cost order.

Pursuant to the finding of guilt and following a sanction hearing that was convened on 26 October 2023, the panel imposed the following sanction on Mr Ducler Des Rauches:

- Permanent disqualification from registration as a registered auditor;
- Total fine of R300 000;
- Costs in the sum of R688 936.66 (being 80% of the total costs incurred by the IRBA);
- Publication of his name, the charges preferred against him and the sanction imposed in IRBA News and other local and national media outlets; and
- The matter and its outcome be referred to the SAICA's Professional Conduct Committee for an assessment of his fitness to continue to practice as a chartered accountant.

### Part-heard Matter(s)

In addition to the abovementioned finalised matters, the Disciplinary Hearing Panel convened on 1 November 2023 to determine charges of improper conduct preferred against a former RA for non-compliance with tax legislation. The hearing adjourned prior to its finalisation and is scheduled to re-convene on 7 February 2024.

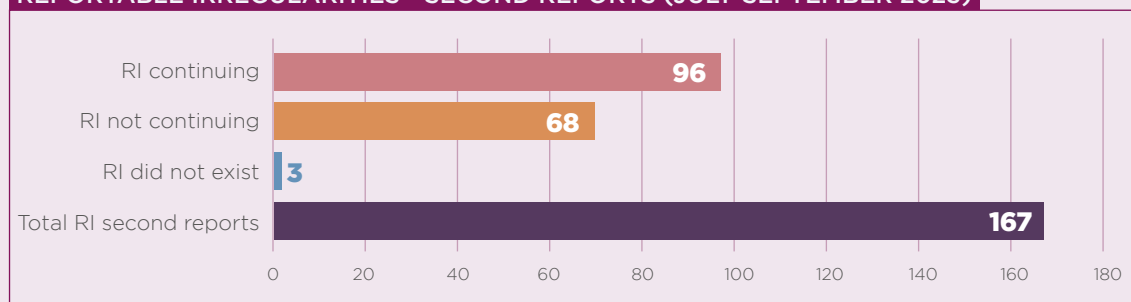
### Conclusion

Seven additional hearings have been scheduled for the next quarter. This is to significantly improve turnaround times, while addressing the backlog that was created by the previous protracted legislative amendments.

## REPORTABLE IRREGULARITIES

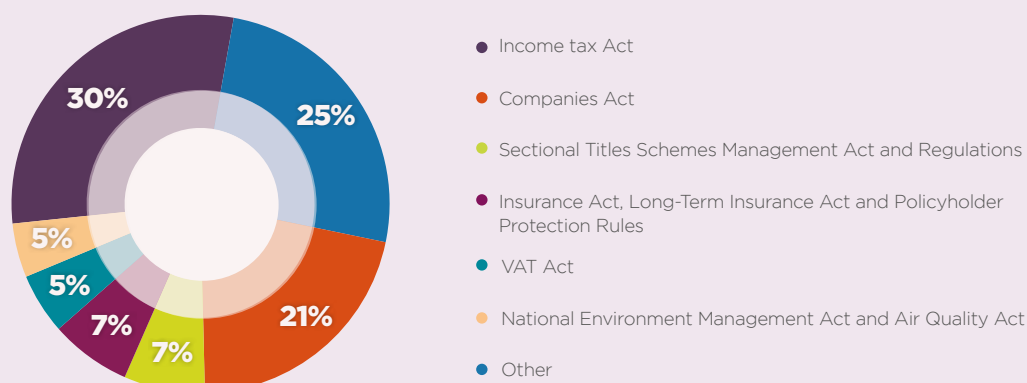
The IRBA received and processed 167 first and second reports on RIs during the previous quarter. It should be noted that these are reported quarterly in arrears. The nature of the second reports received is highlighted in the graph below.

### REPORTABLE IRREGULARITIES - SECOND REPORTS (JULY-SEPTEMBER 2023)



The chart below reflects the 96 continuing RIs received, categorised by nature.

#### CONTINUING RIs



**Note:** The top three types of reported contraventions related to the Income Tax Act, the Companies Act and its Regulations, as well as the Sectional Titles Schemes Management Act and Regulations. There were also several RIs highlighting contraventions of, among others, the National Environmental Management Act, the Air Quality Act and the Long-Term Insurance Act.

All second reports indicating continuing RIs were sent to the relevant regulators and/or authorities, in line with the provisions of the APA, for action.

## INFORMATION REQUIRED REGARDING THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF AUDIT CLIENTS THAT ARE REPORTED TO THE IRBA

To enhance the analysis and onward reporting of RIs, all RAs who send first RI reports to the IRBA in terms of Section 45 of the APA are requested to include a short description of the economic industry within which the audit client that is the subject of the report operates. Examples of such industry descriptions can include, but are not limited to, the possible classifications that are listed below.

#### CLASSIFICATIONS

Accounting and auditing services	Councils and boards
Advertising sector	Courier services
Agriculture, farming, fishing, forestry	Day care centres and creches
Associations	Education sector, other
Banking sector	Education sector, schools
Bargaining councils	Education sector, universities, colleges
Body corporates and home-owners associations	Entertainment industry, including casinos
Churches and religious institutions.	Financial advisory, investment managers and taxation services
Cleaning services	Funds
Clubs	Funeral services.
Construction industry, including building suppliers	Government and public entities



## CLASSIFICATIONS

Healthcare sector, hospitals and pharmaceutical services, excluding medical aids	News agencies, online, printed, radio and television
Hotels, conference centres and restaurants	Other industries not specified
Information and technology sector	Pension, provident or retirement funds
Legal practitioners, including attorney trust accounts	Performing arts
Long-term insurance industry	Petroleum and petrochemical industry
Manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus	Political parties
Social welfare, non-profit organisations	Property industry, including property development, managing agents and estate agents
Sports and recreational services	Refineries
Telecommunications industry	Refuse removal, recycling services
Trade unions	Renewable energies
Transportation and freight services, combined air, land and sea	Renovators of buildings, structures, etc.
Manufacture of electronic goods	Retail trade, household items, food, beverages, tobacco, etc.
Manufacture of fertilizers	Retail trade, other
Manufacture of food products, beverages, tobacco products	Retirement villages
Manufacture of machinery	Security industry
Manufacture of textiles, clothing, leather goods	Short-term credit and micro-lending industry
Manufacturing of other goods not specified	Short-term insurance industry
Medical aids	Transportation and freight services, air
Mining and quarrying	Transportation and freight services, road and rail
Motor vehicle industry, sales, repairs and maintenance	Transportation and freight services, sea
Museums	Trusts
	Veterinary services

Registered auditors who have any questions relating to the above may contact the RI department at [ris@irba.co.za](mailto:ris@irba.co.za).

# REGISTRY

## REGISTRATIONS, RE-REGISTRATIONS AND TERMINATIONS

### Overview of Registry Movements

As at the end of the second quarter, there were 3 547 registered auditors, following the registration of 40 and the termination of 24. The below chart provides an overview of registry movements during the reporting period.

#### STATISTICS ON REGISTRY MOVEMENTS (Q1)



## New Registrations and Re-registrations

Below are the names of the RAs who were entered into the register.

INDIVIDUALS NEWLY ADMITTED TO THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 19 JUNE 2023 TO 21 SEPTEMBER 2023	
Ahmed, Firaz Ebrahim	Kgaphola, Khutso Mashiloane
Arendse, Adri Leisl	Kokt, Shante
Beets, Sanelda	Le Roux, Tobias Hendrik
Coetzee, Cheryl-Lee	Marais, Jan Johannes
Coetzee, Stephen George	Marais, Johan Frederick
De Bruyn, Catharina Maria	Mhlongo, Siphephelo Harris
De Jager, Vincent William	Naidoo, Fabian Theodore
Du Toit, Neil	Ramokali, Thabiso Godfrey
Engelbrecht, Bianca	Schafer, Michael John
Fernandes, Shannon	Selemo, Segwape Zola
Goosen, Mariska	Singh, Amith
Greenshields, Yvette	Singh, Lorisha Lawangee
Haasbroek, Dirk Cornelis	Street, Sumari
Hayward, Shannon Samantha	Theron, Lydia Jeanet
Howie, Tatum	Theron, Maryke
Huysamen, Helena	Van Vuuren, Kiana
Janse Van Rensburg, Karlien	Wessels, Rudi
Jordaan, Carine	Yahya Nana, Mohsin

INDIVIDUALS RE-ADMITTED TO THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 20 JUNE 2023 TO 29 AUGUST 2023	
Bezuidenhout, Jason Grant	Dimairo, Tinashe
De Wee, Conrad Randall	Taljaard, Leon Talmar

## Terminations

As indicated above, 24 RAs were removed from the register during the period under review. Below they are listed, along with reasons for their removal.

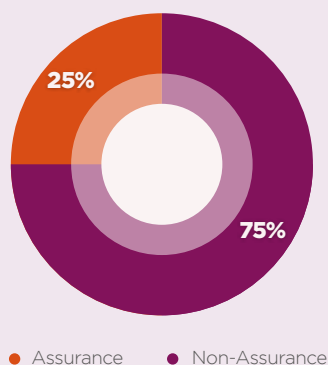
INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 22 SEPTEMBER 2023 TO 23 NOVEMBER 2023	
Aucamp, Abraham Liebrecht	Emigrated
Carlisle, Peter	Resigned
Cooper, Jean Adrienne	Resigned
Engelbrecht, Lindie	Resigned
Esterhuizen, Rupert	Resigned
Klinkradt, Gary Brian	Passed away
Kruger, Michael	Emigrated
Kundishora, Jacqueline Elaine Mazvita	Emigrated
Lamprecht, Rene	Emigrated
Manie, Fardiel	Resigned
Miller, Fenwick Neil	Resigned
Munu, Dinesh	Resigned
Naidu, Kreesen Venketas	Resigned
Naude, Willem Tobias	Resigned
Oliva, Jane Anne	Resigned
Opperman, Henning Johannes	Resigned
O'Reilly, Filomena	Resigned
Sacks, Bernard Graeme	Resigned
Silbowitz, Norman	Resigned
Singh, Sharitha	Emigrated
Smith, Kerry Anne	Emigrated
Taljaard, Jeanette	Emigrated
Theron, Inge	Emigrated
Van Niekerk, Leonore	Resigned

The most prevalent reasons for removal from the register were due to emigration, leaving firms and no longer performing assurance work.

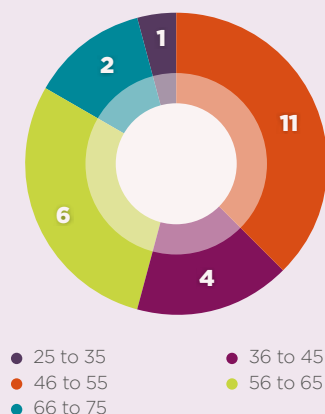


The graphs below provide the age and assurance status split in respect of those RAs who were removed from the register. The majority of these were between 46 and 55 years of age and performed non-assurance work.

#### ASSURANCE STATUS



#### AGE GROUP



## ANNUAL RENEWAL

The 2023/2024 annual renewal cycle began on 1 April 2023. Subsequently, 26 RAs were lapsed for the non-payment of their annual fees and notices of the IRBA's intention to cancel registration for the non-submission of Annual Returns were issued, in line with the provisions of the APA.

Cancellations will be effected as soon as the notice period elapses. Therefore, to avoid the cancellation of registration and the impact thereof on audits, we urge all RAs who have not yet completed and submitted their Annual Returns to do so without delay.

## IRBA PRESCRIBES A FIT AND PROPER POLICY FOR REGISTERED AUDITORS

The APA, in Section 37(2)(d), enjoins the IRBA to ensure that an applicant for registration or re-registration as an RA is fit and proper to practise the profession. It also directs that for existing RAs (auditors) to continue practising, they should remain fit and proper persons.

Therefore, the IRBA appreciates the need to ensure the fitness of auditors in the preservation of the integrity and good reputation of the profession. This is fundamental to the maintenance of public confidence in the profession and the IRBA as a regulator.

To strengthen the existing fit and proper process, in October 2023, the IRBA Board approved a Fit and Proper Policy that is applicable to all RAs and those wishing to register as auditors. The policy reaffirms the obligation of all auditors and prospective auditors to openly disclose any factors that may affect their fitness to practise or continue to practise as RAs.

At entry to the profession, the IRBA will review whether an auditor is fit and proper to practise. This assessment will be conducted during the application for registration stage; annually, through the annual renewal process for those already registered; and whenever information necessitating a review is declared or comes to the IRBA's attention.

A fit and proper assessment involves aspects of ethics, prescribed competencies, financial soundness and capability. Besides the reasons set out in the APA for refusing or terminating registration, various factors may affect an auditor's fitness to practise. These include, but are not limited to, dishonesty; breach of confidentiality; failure to satisfy financial commitments; dismissal from previous employment for misconduct; a guilty finding in respect of any misconduct in relation to professional activities; and/or a tarnished reputation.

The IRBA will consider all factors that come to its attention relating to an auditor's fitness to practise or continue to do so, and determine the effect of such concerns on the office of an auditor.

The Fit and Proper Policy has been published in the Government Gazette and can be found on the [IRBA website](#).

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**Jillian Bailey**  
Director Investigations

# INVESTIGATIONS

The matters reported in this issue took place between October and November 2023.

## INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

During the period under review, this committee met once and referred 26 matters to the Enforcement Committee.

## ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee met once during this period and concluded on 24 matters.

### Decision Not to Charge

There were three matters finalised where the respondents were not charged with improper conduct. In one of these instances, a reasonable explanation was provided for the respondent's conduct; and in the other two, there were no reasonable prospects of succeeding with a charge of improper conduct against the respondents.

### Decision to Charge and Matters Finalised through an Admission of Guilt Process

There were 17 matters finalised by fines issued through an admission of guilt process.

#### Matter 1

The respondent, Mr Mitesh Mohanlal Patel, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by ISAs, regarding the existence and valuation of various components of plant and equipment for three consecutive years. He also placed over-reliance on management representations regarding the recoverability of value-added tax receivable and the initial measurement of non-current assets held for sale. In addition, the audit report he issued was not in accordance with the Auditing Pronouncements.

The respondent was sentenced on the six charges to a total fine of R600 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

## Matter 2

The respondent failed to document considerations on the engagement file regarding a possible reportable irregularity relating to non-compliance with the Labour Relations Act. Furthermore, the respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence for staff loans for two consecutive years and sufficient appropriate evidence relating to compliance with laws and regulations for three successive years.

The respondent was sentenced on the four charges to a total fine of R400 000, of which R200 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms. Also, the respondent must arrange and ensure that they and their staff attend external training on the practical application of the Auditing Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

## Matter 3

The respondent, Mr Xavier Botha, failed to identify that material-related party transactions and disclosures regarding financial instruments were omitted from the aggregated historical financial information included in a pre-listing statement of the entity. Also, the financial statements of the entity did not include all the disclosures regarding financial instruments. The unmodified audit reports he issued were inappropriate under the circumstances.

The respondent was sentenced on the two charges to a total fine of R400 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed. In addition, he was referred to the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants' (SAICA) Professional Conduct Committee, for it to determine whether he meets the professional body's fit and proper requirements.

## Matter 4

The respondent resigned from an audit firm. However, subsequent to that, the respondent used the firm's letterhead, without authority, to write an audit resignation letter to a client.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R100 000, of which R50 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms.

## Matter 5

The respondent failed to report reportable irregularities timely to the IRBA, as required by Section 45 of the APA. In addition, the respondent failed to document communication with those charged with governance in the audit engagement file, in accordance with ISA 260.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R100 000, of which R50 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms.

## Matter 6

The respondent, Mr Miles Harold Fisher, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on several components of the financial statements for a holding company and three subsidiaries. The financial statements of the holding company and the subsidiaries were incorrect under the circumstances, as material errors that extended over a number of years were noted. Furthermore, he did not obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on restatements in the financial statements of the holding company and the subsidiaries in the subsequent financial year.

The respondent was sentenced on the eight charges to a total fine of R1 600 000, of which R400 000 has been suspended for five years, on condition that he is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; the imposition of a previously suspended fine of R30 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed. Also, the respondent must arrange and ensure that he and his staff attend external training on the International Financial Reporting Standards and the practical application of the Auditing Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

## Matter 7

The matter was a referral from the Inspections Committee (INSCOM). The audit firm provided internal audit services to the entity in the year preceding the firm's appointment as external auditors. The respondent, Mr Sifiso Sithebe, failed to identify the threats to independence created by the internal audit services provided by the audit firm in the preceding year, and failed to apply appropriate safeguards to eliminate or reduce the threats to an acceptably low level, as required by the IRBA Code.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000, of which R100 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that he is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

## Matter 8

The respondent, Mr Mark van Houten, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, in relation to the consolidation process of the group financial statements, opening balances, trade and other payables, and various audit opinions he issued for entities where the audit work was not yet completed. In addition, he failed to evaluate the significance of the threats created by auditing the consolidated financial statements that he compiled, and failed to apply safeguards to eliminate the threats or reduce them to an acceptable level, as required by the IRBA Code. Furthermore, he contravened the IRBA Code when he made an unprofessional statement in correspondence to the client and failed to declare various audit engagements on the Assurance Work Declaration to the IRBA.

The respondent was sentenced on the six charges to a total fine of R680 000, of which R340 000 has been suspended for five years, on condition that he is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed. Also, the respondent must arrange and ensure that he and his staff attend external training on the practical application of the Auditing Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

## Matter 9

The respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with the provisions of laws and regulations, which had a direct effect on amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, as required by ISA 250. This resulted in the respondent failing to identify and address material misstatements in the financial statements of the entity. In addition, the respondent failed to consider the auditor's reporting responsibilities in terms of Section 45 of the APA and the IRBA Code.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000, of which R100 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms.

## Matter 10

The respondent, Mr Gert van Schalkwyk, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on accounts payable, rental income, expenses and taxation payable. He also failed to perform appropriate audit procedures, as required by the ISAs, on amendments made to the financial statements of a body corporate.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R150 000, of which R75 000 has been suspended for five years, on condition that he is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; the imposition of a previously suspended fine of R150 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that he and his staff attend external training on the auditing of body corporates within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

## Matter 11

The respondent, Ms Dee Bronwyn Bezuidenhout, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on income received in advance, tax on fringe benefits and rental expenses. In addition, the audit documentation did not support the audit opinion, resulting in an inappropriate audit opinion being issued. Furthermore, she failed to assemble the audit documentation in an audit file and complete the administrative process of assembling the final audit file on a timely basis after the date of the auditor's report.

The respondent was sentenced on the two charges to a total fine of R300 000, of which R150 000 has been suspended for five years, on condition that she is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of her name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

## Matter 12

The respondent was registered as a tax practitioner, but failed to comply with the relevant obligations in terms of the Income Tax Act and to correct their own personal tax non-compliance when called upon to do so by the South African Revenue Service (SARS). Accordingly, SARS de-registered the respondent as a tax practitioner.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R150 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms. In addition, the respondent was referred to SAICA's Professional Conduct Committee, for it to determine whether the respondent meets the professional body's fit and proper requirements.



### Matter 13

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Mr Dwight Dominic Thompson, failed to document a revised materiality figure on the engagement file, to support the conclusion that the uncorrected misstatement was immaterial.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000, of which R100 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that he is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of his name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

### Matter 14

The respondent, subsequent to resigning from the audit firm, failed to honour the restraint of trade clause in their employment contract with the audit firm, by accepting appointment as a successor auditor of the audit firm's clients. The respondent accordingly failed to act with integrity, as required by the IRBA Code.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R150 000, of which the entire R150 000 has been suspended for five years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms.

### Matter 15

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent failed to identify material non-cash items included in the Statement of Cash Flows.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R80 000, of which R40 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms.

### Matter 16

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent failed to identify that a prior period error was adjusted prospectively instead of retrospectively.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R100 000, of which R50 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that the respondent is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA in general terms.

### Matter 17

The respondent, Ms Angelique Meiring, failed to obtain an understanding of the circumstances relating to non-compliance identified during the audit and to evaluate the possible effect of the non-compliance on the auditor's opinion, as required by ISA 250. In addition, she failed to document evidence that an emphasis of matter paragraph in the audit report was communicated with those charged with governance, as required by ISA 706.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R100 000, of which R50 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that she is not found guilty of any improper conduct committed during the period of suspension; the imposition of a previously suspended fine of R25 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of her name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

### Decision to Charge and Matters Referred for Disciplinary Hearings

Four matters were referred to the Legal Department for disciplinary hearings.

## A GLIMPSE AT CHALLENGES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS

### Significant Progress in Clearing the Backlog of Matters

The Investigations Department has made significant progress in respect of the backlog of matters that occurred in the 2018 to 2021 financial years. The backlog was due to more investigations being initiated in this period than what could be finalised, and was in excess of 230 open matters at its peak.

The Board subsequently approved the appointment of additional investigators, and the department now has a full staff complement of nine investigators. This has resulted in a 30% reduction of the backlog from the 2021 financial year to date. The department is working tirelessly to clear the remaining backlog of matters.

### Performance Target Achievement

With a full staff complement, the department was able to achieve or exceed the target of completed investigations for the past two financial years.

FINANCIAL YEAR	COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS	TARGET
2022	79	64
2023	96	96

An investigation is complete when the Enforcement Committee has decided to either impose a fine, refer the respondent to a disciplinary hearing or dismiss the matter.

### Completed Prominent Matters

Despite the challenges faced, we were able to prioritise and complete investigations into audits of high-profile entities in the 2018 to 2023 financial years. Of the 20 state capture matters opened against registered auditors, we have completed 15 matters. From the outstanding matters, three matters have been referred for disciplinary hearings.

## Other Participations and/or Achievements

In October 2019, the Director Investigations became a member of the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators Enforcement Working Group. As part of this working group, the IRBA has been in a position to benchmark the best practices in investigations with other audit regulators from 54 countries.

The department has, with effect from April 2021, commenced providing bi-annual email updates on open matters to respondents and complainants, wherein they are advised of the current status of an investigation. Also, it has instigated a process whereby formal communication is now issued to respondents, addressing their comments and/or queries on the draft schedule of charges approved by the Investigating Committee, prior to the tabling of matters before the Enforcement Committee.

Further, the IRBA liaised with National Treasury to amend the Auditing Profession Act, to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the investigations process. After following a robust consultation process, the Act amendments became effective on 26 April 2021 and included, inter alia, the following:

- a) Enhanced requirements regarding the independence of the Investigating Committee and the Enforcement Committee members from the auditing profession.
- b) Referral of a non-audit matter brought against a registered auditor to the relevant accredited professional body for investigation and possible disciplinary proceedings.
- c) The Investigating Committee was given the powers to subpoena a registered auditor to whom the charge relates or any other person with specific knowledge of the matter under investigation, to provide information that is in their possession or under their control.
- d) The Investigating Committee was also given search and seizure powers to authorise suitably qualified persons to enter and search any premises with prior consent or without prior consent, if the entry is authorised by a warrant.
- e) The IRBA may share information at the written request of any appropriate regulator or international audit regulator that requires it for the institution or investigation of a disciplinary process.
- f) Non-cooperation during an investigation by the IRBA is now an offence and a person who is convicted for such is liable to a fine or imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years or to both.

In addition, the new disciplinary rules for registered auditors came into effect on 1 April 2022, and align to the amendments contained in the Act. Also, the final rules as approved by the Board, followed a robust consultation process.

The Minister of Finance issued the new maximum monetary fines via Government Notice No. 3549 on 15 June 2023. We are busy finalising the implementation plan for the new maximum monetary fines and will be publishing this for comment in April 2024. The previous maximum fine per charge of R200 000 remains in place for transgressions that occurred prior to 15 June 2023.

### Jillian Bailey

*Director Investigations*

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**Ntlambi Gulwa**  
Director Inspections

# INSPECTIONS

## **FIRMS' COMMITMENT TO TRANSPARENCY AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT EVIDENT IN LATEST AUDIT QUALITY INDICATORS SURVEY RESULTS**

Our recently published [2023 Survey Report: Audit Quality Indicators \(AQIs\)](#) reflects on a year that has shown some progress in the auditing profession in South Africa. The report indicates that, in relation to the relevant quality indicators, audit firms have stayed on course in their commitment to transparency and continuous improvement. This fifth issue also provides a wealth of information to generate insights that will advance audit quality.

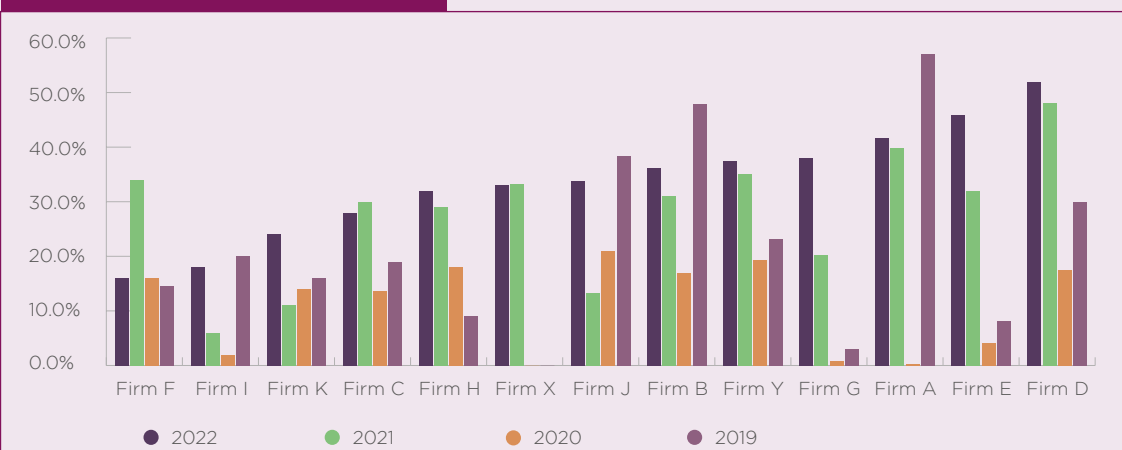
AQIs serve as a valuable resource for stakeholders within the financial reporting ecosystem. They offer a chance to employ tangible and measurable data for meaningful conversations on what audit quality is and what influences it.

The report has largely remained consistent over the years. This has been intentional and aimed at assisting users in understanding and embedding some of the AQIs within their systems and processes. This year, we have proposed a new AQI on transformation, as detailed further below. Outlined underneath are just two key trends from the report.

### **Staff Turnover**

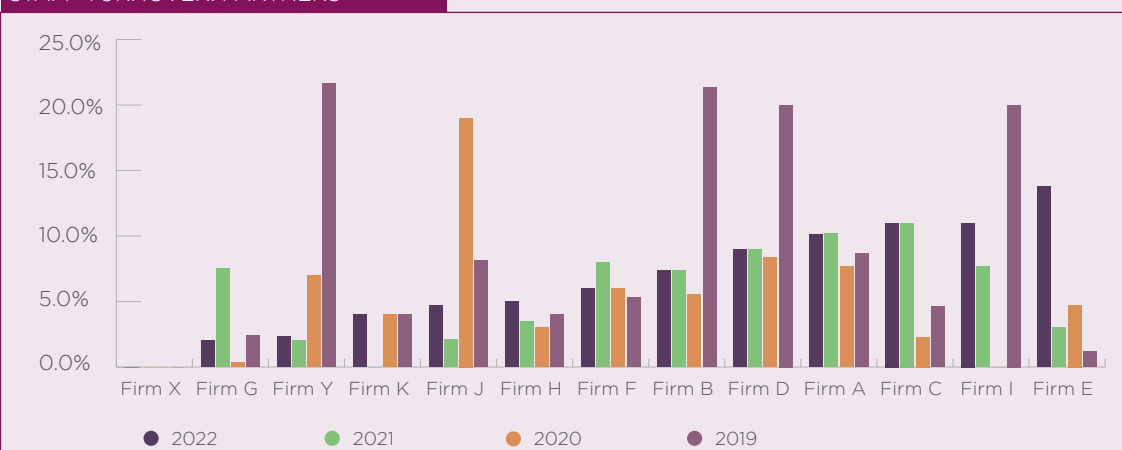
Staff turnover measures the percentage of staff who have left the firm, excluding those whose training contracts have ended, in the categories of engagement partners, audit managers and audit supervisors. This is based on the opening number of staff in each of the three categories. Promotions between ranks are not to be considered. Staff turnover is calculated as the total number of leavers divided by the average number of staff for the year (that is, the monthly average over the calendar year).

### STAFF TURNOVER: MANAGERS



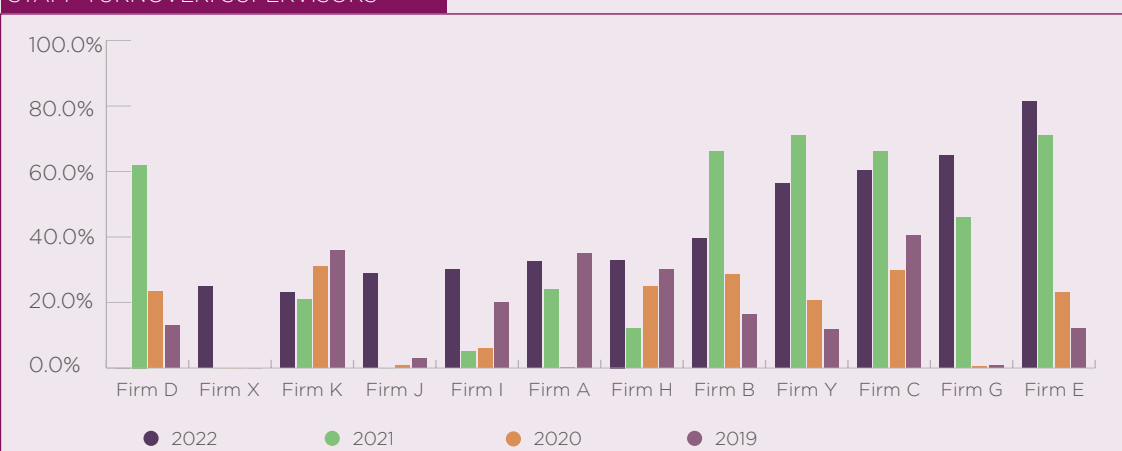
Firm K: Comparatives have been restated, due to the incorrect formula applied previously.  
Firm X: 0% in 2020. Excluded in 2019, due to not meeting the minimum PIE threshold.

### STAFF TURNOVER: PARTNERS



Firm I: 0% in 2020.  
Firm K: 0% in 2020. Furthermore, comparatives have been restated, due to the incorrect formula applied previously.  
Firm X: 0% in 2022, 2021 and 2020. Excluded in 2019, due to not meeting the minimum PIE threshold.

### STAFF TURNOVER: SUPERVISORS



Firm D: 0% in 2022.  
Firm F: Does not provide information at this level, as there are no supervisors appointed.  
Firm J: 0% in 2021.  
Firm K: Comparatives have been restated, due to the incorrect formula applied previously.  
Firm X: 0% in 2021 and 2020. Excluded in 2019, due to not meeting the minimum PIE threshold.

An observation in this year's report that confirms anecdotal evidence is the reported increase in staff turnover across all three categories of personnel, with audit firms grappling with higher rates. The restrictive availability of skilled resources and the subsequent impact on audit quality now pose a significant global challenge.

As the IRBA, we have taken some proactive measures by increasing our involvement in public and academic events, and fostering deeper connections with professional organisations, universities and audit firms. These efforts aim to enhance the appeal of auditing as a career choice. To reinforce these initiatives, we urge audit firms to explore strategies to retain their talent by, among others, considering factors such as benefits, including non-monetary benefits such as a balanced work-life integration, flexible work arrangements and talent management. Reducing staff turnover in audit teams may contribute to the enhancement of audit quality.

Although AQIs have a focus on quantitative data, qualitative data plays an important role in providing context behind the quantitative analysis. Our analysis of audit firms' review processes provided practical considerations that could be applied on a broader scale. For example, during the root cause analysis (RCA) of monitoring findings, one of the audit firms implemented a quantitative analysis to enhance the remediation process. Data points analysed included partner involvement, engagement quality reviewer involvement, quantitative metrics about the partner portfolios, retention information and leverage (including partner-to-manager and professional staff ratios). This process was then extended to review wider metrics across the audit firm. The results of this firm-level assessment of the causal factors were used, along with the outcomes of the RCA, to develop firm-level action plans, based on a consideration of the audit firm's quality priorities and how these apply geographically.

## Internal Review Results

Internal review results measure the average percentage of all result ratings of engagement partners, subject to internal reviews during a calendar year.

INTERNAL MONITORING	2022	2021	2020	2019
Highest – Satisfactory	95%	93%	83%	90%
Highest – Low Risk Findings	100%	69%	33%	56%
Highest – Unsatisfactory	100%	100%	100%	82%

The table above depicts the AQI that measures the percentage of files that received a satisfactory, low-risk findings or unsatisfactory outcome, following an internal monitoring review. It discloses the highest measures achieved among the various firms that have participated in the AQI process. Another trend worth noting is a decline in the internal monitoring results at most audit firms, as noted by the highest results within the categories of Low Risk Findings and Unsatisfactory. This could suggest that either more robust internal monitoring processes are detecting further issues, or there is an increase in deficiencies in audit quality within the engagements that were reviewed by audit firms.

Notably, we expect to see an impact on firm-level AQIs, such as internal monitoring results, through the implementation of new features in audit firms' internal monitoring systems, along with the recent introduction of the of ISQM 1.



## Transformation

One of the IRBA's key strategic objectives is to facilitate transformation in the auditing profession. To that end, we are considering the inclusion of transformation AQIs as one example of a targeted initiative that is aimed at identifying and addressing barriers at various stages of the RA pipeline.

During our scanning of the market for developments in AQIs, we came across various international and local publications with transformation data that ranges from personnel counts to percentages of totals on various types of diversity categories. In addition to being a key prerogative in the South African socioeconomic context, the IRBA also recognises that transformation in the auditing profession is needed for improved audit quality and to set a sound base for future RAs.

Furthermore, routinely publishing AQIs that relate to transformation in the annual AQI Survey Report may help raise awareness of the linked initiatives that have been implemented by local audit firms. Therefore, this is one reason why transformation data is under consideration as an addition to the next round of AQI information requests. Reference is made to an earlier publication ([IRBA News Issue 61](#)) in which such disclosures were provided on an aggregated basis.

As we look ahead, we are confident that the insights from this report will guide our efforts to further enhance audit quality. We are committed to working with all stakeholders, including audit firms, those who appoint them and other interested parties, to drive continuous improvement in the auditing profession.

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**Nadine Kater**  
Director Education and Transformation

## EDUCATION AND TRANSFORMATION

### PUTTING THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE TOP PERFORMING AUDIT STUDENTS

During the period under review, the Education and Transformation Department had the privilege to recognise and award prizes to top performing audit students from various institutions, as part of the transformation activities. As the IRBA, we wish to congratulate all these students for their hard work and dedication.



North-West University: Lee Stiglingh, in the middle, was recognised as the Top Student in Advanced Auditing and Governance in the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy programme. The IRBA was represented by Mahdiyyah Moola, left, at the event that took place in September 2023.



University of Limpopo:  
The prize-giving ceremony took place in October 2023.

UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO	
Student	Award
TL Mosoane	Top Student in Business Ethics 2, Bachelor of Accountancy
MA Mudua	Top Student in Auditing 3, Bachelor of Accountancy
SM Mhlanga	Top Student in Auditing 4, Bachelor of Accountancy
MD Thobejane	Top Student in Business Ethics 2, Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy
SP Ngomane	Top Student in Auditing 2, Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy
CS Choshi	Top Student in Auditing 3, Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy
MW Shongwe	Top Student in Advanced Auditing, Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy Honours
L Mphela	Top Student in Advanced Auditing, Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy Honours
M Ubisi	Top Student in Advanced Auditing, Bachelor of Commerce in Accountancy Honours
SM Malebe	Top Student in Applied Auditing, Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy

#### WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY

Student	Award
U Jucwa	First Position in Control of Financial Information Systems, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
U Notyesi	Second Position in Control of Financial Information Systems, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
B Ngcobo	Third Position in Control of Financial Information Systems, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
A Ntshikila	First Position in Auditing 1, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
U Jucwa	Second Position in Auditing 1, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
Z Masentse	Third Position in Auditing 1, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
L Ndlovu	First Position in Auditing 2, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
U Cwaba	Second Position in Auditing 2, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences
A Myalwa	Third Position in Auditing 2, Bachelor of Accounting Sciences

## DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE AUDIT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (ADP)

For the year to date, there have been 70 new ADP registrations, five deregistrations and 65 completions. These were the first deregistrations recorded over the past three years.

#### ADP STATS FOR Q2 OF FY 2023/2024 (1 APRIL-31 DEC 2023)

Opening	589
Registrations	70
Completed	-65
De-registrations	-5
Total RCAs currently on the ADP	589

### Headway in Plans for a Digitised ADP

The focus of phase 2 of the ADP Reloaded initiative has been to automate the entire programme through a Learning Management System (LMS). A service provider has been procured and work on creating the platform will start soon. The key features of the LMS will include, but not be limited to:

- An online platform with database compatibility.
- Specific user profiles, to manage the various responsibilities of the IRBA secretariat, registered candidate auditors (RCAs), oversight RAs (ORAs) and Portfolios of Evidence (PoEs) reviews. For example, the RCA will be able to track their PoE status on the LMS and the ORAs can also track the RCA's performance and progress online.
- The LMS will be available on mobile applications and alert notifications will be enabled so that users can be aware of any actions required from them.
- All PoE reviewers will be able to review the portfolios online and provide their feedback on the LMS in real time.
- The LMS will have a library where ADP digital content, in the form of eLearning material and videos, can be uploaded and then accessed by users. This content will provide guidance to the RCAs on completing their PoEs and also support the ORAs in carrying out their responsibilities.
- The LMS will have relevant reporting functionalities, to facilitate data analytics. Examples of these include statistical reports, RCA progress reports, age analysis for candidates on the ADP, completion rates, as well as statistics based on gender, race, age and location.

## ADP Monitoring List

The ADP firm monitoring visits are an integral part of the programme offering and are performed to assess the quality of the RCA training environment. In essence, RCAs need to obtain the right experience for them to achieve the relevant competencies that will help them qualify as RAs. During 2023, the ADP monitoring visits focused on the implementation of the new Quality Management standards, i.e. ISQM 1 and ISQM 2, which replaced the International Standard on Quality Control 1. In the third quarter of the 2023/2024 financial year, we conducted 14 ADP monitoring visits, as indicated below.

<b>FIRM 1</b>	Sprigg Abbot
<b>FIRM 2</b>	De Wett CA's
<b>FIRM 3</b>	Kruger Smit
<b>FIRM 4</b>	MGI RAS
<b>FIRM 5</b>	Reko
<b>FIRM 6</b>	Paradox Shift Auditing
<b>FIRM 7</b>	Moore Infinity

<b>FIRM 8</b>	Ferriera Venter, Laws & Nel
<b>FIRM 9</b>	Shumba Inc
<b>FIRM 10</b>	Integritas
<b>FIRM 11</b>	Strachan & Crouse
<b>FIRM 12</b>	Lakhi & Co.
<b>FIRM 13</b>	YD Maharaj & Co.
<b>FIRM 14</b>	Nicolson & Co.

At the end of this financial year, all the common findings from the monitoring visits conducted will be consolidated and published in this newsletter.

## Highlights from the Latest Profiles of ADP Graduates

On the learning website, the IRBA regularly profiles the RCAs that have completed the ADP, and below are some of them. For more on these candidates and others, please visit the [IRBA learning site](#).

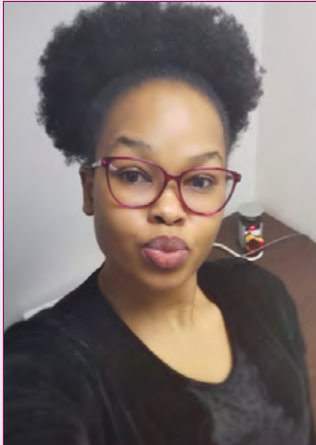


### Langton Ndlovu

*"The ADP assisted me in developing my skills of paying attention to detail, asking the right probing questions and also improved my critical thinking and focus on quality."*

Oversight Registered Auditor (ORA): Nomathamsanqa Ashom

Firm: Ngubane Inc. (at date of completion)



### Nomzamo Khwela

*"When I joined my employer, I started loving the profession and the work we do. The organisation gave me an opportunity where I could influence our public sector in the right direction when it comes to public administration and building public confidence."*

ORA: Samuel Mhlongo

Organisation: Auditor-General South Africa (AGSA)

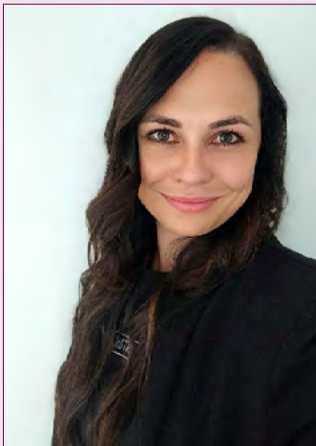


### Rikus van der Merwe

*"My career aspirations are to continue pursuing a role where I can contribute and help build towards a positive South Africa - #StrongerTogether."*

ORA: Saffiyah Boothia

Firm: PwC



### Danielle Kruger

*"When completing the ADP, you hold yourself to a higher standard. It improved my technical skills and challenged my thinking, leading to improved quality of audits."*

ORA: Mark Watson

Firm: Crowe Johannesburg



### Nkululeko Mbovane

*"Through my training contract, I started to love my work and gained a better understanding of the auditing field. The impact of my work on the lives of ordinary South Africans also pushed me to become the professional that I am today."*

ORA: Sabelo Songca

Organisation: AGSA



## REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE IRBA'S COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

The Competency Framework Task Force is finalising the Competency Framework Roadmap, which is a consultative document that marks the first phase of the review process. The development of the detailed revised Competency Framework will commence afterwards, and that will incorporate the inputs received from stakeholders.

Through the roadmap, the IRBA seeks to introduce to current and future RAs, professional bodies, learning and training providers and the public a framework that will allow RAs to adapt and be versatile, while they continue to be ethical audit and assurance providers.

### An Emphasis on Ethics, Integrity and Commitment as Key Values in Protecting the Public Interest

The notable technical, digital and professional skills that RAs possess are instrumental in creating opportunities for them in other industries and countries across the world. This, together with a strong ethical foundation, makes these professionals some of the most critical role-players for local and global economies. Fundamentally, strong ethics, integrity and the commitment to protect the public interest are values that make the public and organisations place their trust in RAs.

The importance of nurturing and developing these values in aspiring RAs has been central to the discussions of the task force and is a significant area on which the Competency Framework Roadmap focuses. Other key areas will be unpacked in future editions.

## PROFESSIONAL BODY MONITORING

The accredited professional bodies – SAICA and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) – are monitored according to the requirements of the IRBA's Accreditation Model. The Monitoring Committee (MCOM) is responsible for all aspects relating to the monitoring of the accredited professional bodies. In this quarter, the IRBA called for nominations onto the MCOM, for the appointment of members with ACCA-specific experience. It has been encouraging to see a wide interest and eagerness among professionals to contribute to the auditing profession by participating in the MCOM. The appointment process is in progress and will be finalised in the next quarter.

### ACCA Accreditation Implementation

Currently, both the IRBA and ACCA are diligently involved in post-accreditation activities, signifying a strategic collaboration to ensure a smooth transition for ACCA candidates onto the ADP. As these exciting developments progress, we encourage members and other stakeholders to engage with both the IRBA and ACCA for further information.

## Accreditation Committee (ACCOM)

With the ACCA accreditation, the ACCOM has successfully concluded its responsibilities of evaluating the application and providing a recommendation to the IRBA governance structures. Further, the ACCOM has concluded the official handover of post-accreditation deliverables to the Monitoring Committee (MCOM).

The final ACCOM meeting, held on 1 November 2023, was a pivotal moment where members, alongside Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), gathered in person to share closing reflections, finalise the ACCOM close-out report and prepare recommendations for presentation to the Education and Transformation Committee (EDCOM).

At that meeting, the IRBA took the opportunity to formally thank the ACCOM and SMEs for their commitment and hard work over the past three years, with each member being awarded a letter of appreciation in this regard.

The EDCOM formally dissolved the ACCOM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2023.



Turning a New Leaf: ACCOM members and subject matter experts at the final meeting after the ACCA accreditation decision.

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*Director Education and Transformation*

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# COMMUNICATIONS

In the interest of improved communication with registered auditors and our other stakeholders, a list of the communiques sent by bulk email during the reporting period is set out below.

1 December 2023	<a href="#"><u>IRBA Prescribes Four Rules Arising from the International Standards on Quality Management</u></a>
30 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>REMINDER: Effective Date of the International Standard on Auditing 600 (Revised): Special Considerations – Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)</u></a>
28 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>An Alert on the Latest Publications from the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund</u></a>
27 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>The Adoption of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) 2022 Handbook of International Quality Management, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements in terms of the Auditing Profession Act 26 of 2005, as amended</u></a>
21 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>Recording and Presentation Slides Now Available: IRBA Innovation Day 2023 – Shaping the Future of Audit</u></a>
13 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>Final Pronouncement: Technology-related Revisions to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors</u></a>
10 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>Audit Quality Indicators Survey Report Shows Commitment to Transparency and Continuous Improvements</u></a>
9 November 2023	<a href="#"><u>Final Pronouncement: Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors</u></a>
16 October 2023	<a href="#"><u>Monitoring Committee of the IRBA Call for Nominations – Deadline 31 October 2023</u></a>
16 October 2023	<a href="#"><u>Request for Nominees to Serve on the Legal Practitioner's Fidelity Fund Board in terms of Section 61 of the Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014 (as amended)</u></a>
13 October 2023	<a href="#"><u>IRBA Achieves a Clean Audit Report Amidst Resource Constraints and Cost Containment Measures</u></a>
12 October 2023	<a href="#"><u>Issue 63 of IRBA News is Now Available</u></a>
2 October 2023	<a href="#"><u>IRBA Innovation Day 2023 – Shaping the Future of Audit</u></a>

Those who would like to receive IRBA communications directly into their inboxes can kindly contact Lebogang Manganye ([lmanganye@irba.co.za](mailto:lmanganye@irba.co.za)). Also, if you know of a non-auditor who would like to get these communications, please email the abovementioned address.

# GENERAL NEWS

## OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the IRBA will close its offices on Thursday, 14 December 2023, and re-open on Tuesday, 2 January 2024.



*Photo by Bob Richards on StockSnap*





*Photo by Kelly Ishmael on StockSnap*