

IRBA NEWS

ISSUE 70 APRIL - JUNE 2025

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THE STRATEGIC SEEDS THOUGHTFULLY PLANTED ARE NOW BUDDING

With the new plan, we are confident that we can safeguard our financial sustainability, further reinforce our brand perception and continue playing a vital role in enhancing the profession at large

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Imre Nagy

Chief Executive Officer

CEO'S PERSPECTIVE

FROM REFLECTION TO ACTION:

THE FOCUS NOW MOVES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW STRATEGY

The second quarter of 2025 has marked a pivotal and forward-thinking phase for our organisation. The approval of our new Strategic Plan for 2026-2030 and the Annual Performance Plan for the 2025/2026 Financial Year has been a significant milestone that officially transitioned us from a phase of planning and consultation to active execution. These plans were approved by our Board, the Minister of Finance and Parliament, underscoring our accountability and commitment to public oversight.

In the development of our strategy, it became essential to address both the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead. We also took the opportunity to reflect on our progress and recalibrate for the future. By assessing the current state of the profession, understanding industry trends and leveraging internal capabilities, we believe that through the new plan we can ensure our financial sustainability, further strengthen our brand perception and continue playing a crucial role in enhancing the auditing profession both locally and globally.

Our strategy is anchored on the core pillars of adaptability, innovation, collaboration and impact, all of which are intentionally designed to elevate the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' (IRBA) role within a rapidly evolving audit landscape. We are moving beyond simply forging relationships to actively leveraging existing strategic partnerships and pursuing collaborative initiatives that deliver measurable, outcomes-driven results.

While we continue to navigate challenges, such as the declining number of registered auditors and the imperative to balance robust enforcement with the need to attract and retain audit talent, our resolve remains unwavering. We are firmly committed to upholding sustained audit quality, enforcing accountability and advancing transformation across the profession.

This new strategy is more than just a roadmap; it is a call to action – a challenge for us and the profession at large to secure relevance, resilience and sustainability well into the future.

Appointments to International Audit Regulatory Oversight Bodies

The organisation was appointed to two critical international audit regulatory oversight bodies, in line with our mission to be an internationally respected audit regulator of a thriving and trusted auditing profession in South Africa that safeguards the public interest. The IRBA was re-elected to the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators (IFIAR) Board, while I was re-appointed as a member and Chairperson of the IFIAR Audit and Finance Committee for another two-year term. Additionally, the IRBA currently serves on five of the seven IFIAR working groups and task forces.

On the African continent, I was elected to the Board of the African Forum of Independent Accounting and Auditing Regulators (AFIAAR) in the office of Vice-Chair for a two-year term, and will be supported by Rebecca Motsepe, our Director Legal, as an alternate Board member (see page 37 for more details). The AFIAAR comprises regulators from 17 jurisdictions across Africa. It serves to promote effective and harmonised regulation, build institutional capacity and provide a platform for dialogue, collaboration and the exchange of regulatory best practices.

We look forward to serving on and contributing to the IFIAR and AFIAAR boards. Furthermore, we remain committed to regulatory collaboration and will continue to support independent audit regulation globally.

Continued Commitment to Audit Quality

As part of our continued commitment to transparency and the enhancement of sustained audit quality in the public interest, we successfully conducted roadshows in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg, where the latest Public Inspections Report was shared with key stakeholders. The report reflects the IRBA's unwavering commitment to improving audit practices and protecting the public interest through rigorous inspections and proactive remediation efforts with the audit firms.

The sessions were a valuable platform for dialogue on inspections outcomes, the challenges facing the profession and the initiatives being undertaken to support continuous improvement in audit quality. Audit quality is a collaborative effort and sustaining it requires a steady commitment and active engagement from regulators, audit firms, auditors and those charged with governance.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to maintaining high standards of audit quality and collaborating with stakeholders to tackle emerging challenges. The IRBA will continue to support audit firms in their remediation efforts and inculcate a culture of continuous improvement and excellence, key objectives that will help build a thriving and trusted profession in South Africa.

Strategic Legislative Reform – Key Upcoming Strategic Imperatives

In response to a directive from the Standing Committee on Finance, we have initiated a comprehensive review of our legislation. The proposed amendments aim to reinstate mandatory audit firm rotation and also seek to remove restrictions on transparency on audit quality inspections reports, allowing investors and audit committees full access in the interest of transparency. These will further reinforce the IRBA's powers to prescribe fees and conduct regulatory equivalence assessments of foreign auditors conducting audits on foreign companies that are listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Expansion of the Regulatory Horizon

While our statutory mandate is focused on the regulation of registered auditors, it is important to acknowledge that there is a significant regulatory gap within the broader corporate reporting ecosystem. Currently, more than 50 000 accounting professionals operate in the system outside the scope of a legislated regulatory framework, as their governance is managed by the existing voluntary membership-based professional bodies.

Consequently, we have recognised the need to look at the entire corporate reporting and governance ecosystem, in which auditors are not the only parties that need to be regulated. In our view, the absence of independent regulation for accounting professionals has weakened the overall integrity and accountability of the reporting system. Their regulation then would not only improve accountability, among others, but also strengthen integrity and public confidence in financial preparers and the information they produce. The IRBA will continue to advocate for the independent regulation of the accounting profession and support National Treasury in its processes.

Looking Ahead

We are poised to implement our plans decisively, collaborate meaningfully and lead with purpose. Our strategy is bold in ambition, the vision is clear and our commitment to the public interest is unwavering. As a cohesive team, together with our stakeholders, we are confident in our ability to shape a future-ready auditing profession – one that not only meets the demands of a dynamic environment, but continues to uphold the highest standards of integrity and public accountability.

Imre Nagy

Chief Executive Officer



Standards

A SNAPSHOT OF THE TOPICS COVERED

■ Standards:

- Artificial Intelligence in Finance – Shaping the Future: Webinar Summary, Recording and Presentation Slides Now Available.
- IRBA Issues Feedback Statement on the Post-implementation Review of Its SAAEPS 1, Sustainability Assurance Engagements: Rational Purpose, Appropriateness of Underlying Subject Matter and Suitability of Criteria.
- An Alert on the Latest Communication from the Property Practitioners Regulatory Authority on the 2025 Audit Report Submissions.
- Committee for Auditing Standards:
 - IAASB Seeks Feedback on the Proposed Narrow-Scope Amendments Related to Using the Work of an External Expert.
- International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board:
 - IAASB Projects in Progress.
 - Status of the Adoption of ISSA 5000 in South Africa.
 - Status of the Adoption of ISA 570 (Revised 2024) in South Africa.
 - IAASB Publications.

■ Ethics:

- Committee for Auditor Ethics:
 - Request for Comments: Proposed Revised IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors with South African Enhancements to the Ethics and Independence Standards for Sustainability Assurance (Proposed Revised IRBA Code).
 - IESBA Consults on Collective Investment Vehicles and Pension Funds – Auditor Independence.
- International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants:
 - IESBA Projects in Progress.
 - Status of the Adoption of IESSA in South Africa.
 - IESBA Publications.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN FINANCE – SHAPING THE FUTURE: WEBINAR SUMMARY, RECORDING AND PRESENTATION SLIDES NOW AVAILABLE

In April 2025, the IRBA hosted a webinar themed “Artificial Intelligence in Finance – Shaping the Future”. This information-sharing session, designed to provide insights into the growing use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the finance profession, explored the transformative impact of this form of technology, including its capabilities and risks for the profession.

The event brought together experts and stakeholders from various fields, including audit firms, international standards setters, regulators and businesses, who shared their knowledge, experience and tools to effectively utilise and leverage AI. The topics under discussion included an overview of the following:

- Demonstrations of AI solutions for finance professionals;
- Capabilities and limitations of AI;
- Ethics and responsible use of AI;
- Case studies from audit firms;
- Legislative framework for AI in South Africa; and
- Developments in other jurisdictions.

The IRBA would like to take this opportunity to thank all the speakers and presenters who shared their expertise during the webinar.

Based on the interesting discussions and insights shared, a webinar summary has been prepared and is accessible on the [IRBA website](#), along with the recording and the presentation slides.

IRBA ISSUES FEEDBACK STATEMENT ON THE POST-IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW OF ITS SAAEPS 1, SUSTAINABILITY ASSURANCE ENGAGEMENTS: RATIONAL PURPOSE, APPROPRIATENESS OF UNDERLYING SUBJECT MATTER AND SUITABILITY OF CRITERIA

Subsequent to the post-implementation review (PIR) announced in August 2023, the IRBA has now issued a Feedback Statement on South African Assurance Engagements Practice Statement (SAAEPS) 1, *Sustainability Assurance Engagements: Rational Purpose, Appropriateness of Underlying Subject Matter and Suitability of Criteria*. This review, conducted in 2024, was aimed at gathering valuable insights for the benefit of the ongoing evolution of sustainability assurance discussions.

SAAEPS 1, issued in August 2018 by the IRBA's Committee for Auditing Standards (CFAS), provides practical guidance to practitioners on the preconditions for accepting a sustainability assurance engagement, as outlined in International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 (Revised), *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*.

Given the significant developments in sustainability reporting and assurance, including the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) recent approval and issue of the International Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ISSA) 5000, *General Requirements for Sustainability Assurance Engagements*, the PIR sought to:

- Determine the extent of usage of SAAEPS 1;
- Determine whether SAAEPS 1 is consistently understood and implemented in a manner that achieves the IRBA's intended purpose;
- Identify how, if any, practical challenges and concerns are being addressed; and
- Understand whether SAAEPS 1 is still fit for purpose, considering the assurance developments at the IAASB and globally.

The Secretariat co-ordinated the review through in-person discussions with representatives from seven audit firms. The Feedback Statement summarises the key themes arising from those discussions.

Key Findings from the Post-implementation Review

Based on the four areas that the PIR focused on, below are highlights from the feedback received.

- **Usage of SAAEPS 1:** Firms utilise SAAEPS 1 to varying degrees, ranging from direct references in working papers to informing their methodologies, alongside reliance on global firm papers referencing ISAE 3000 (Revised).

- **Understanding and Implementation:** Overall, SAAEPS 1 is well understood by auditors and serves as a valuable supplement to the requirements of ISAE 3000 (Revised).
- **Addressing Practical Challenges:** Firms reported using SAAEPS 1, particularly the guidance on rational purpose, as a tool for discussion with management during pre-engagement activities and readiness assessments.
- **Fitness for Purpose:** While acknowledging the continued relevance of the South African-specific guidance in SAAEPS 1, general agreement was that it would require revision to align with the newly issued ISSA 5000. The importance of Appendix A (Considerations) in SAAEPS 1 was frequently highlighted.

Additionally, respondents expressed varied opinions on the long-term relevance of the chapters on the appropriateness of the underlying subject matter and the suitability of criteria, given the evolving global reporting frameworks. However, there was unanimous support for the content related to rational purpose and its ongoing importance in the marketplace, particularly in guarding against greenwashing.

The review also highlighted broader perspectives on sustainability assurance engagements, including the importance of processes and controls for non-financial information; the involvement of governance structures; the impact of global sustainability-related developments; the role of readiness assessments; as well as considerations regarding reporting criteria and evidence availability. The potential need for the IRBA to consider awareness-raising efforts that extend to non-registered auditors, given the professional-agnostic nature of ISSA 5000, was also noted.

The findings from this PIR will be considered by the CFAS' Sustainability Standing Committee for the development of recommendations for potential projects for the CFAS' approval. Those will include the possible revision of SAAEPS 1.

The IRBA remains committed to ensuring the effective and appropriate regulation of audits and assurance engagements in South Africa, taking into account the evolving landscape of sustainability reporting and assurance.

The PIR Feedback Statement is available on the [IRBA website](#).

AN ALERT ON THE LATEST COMMUNICATION FROM THE PROPERTY PRACTITIONERS REGULATORY AUTHORITY ON THE 2025 AUDIT REPORT SUBMISSIONS

In respect of the 2025 audit report submissions, registered auditors are advised to take note of the latest communication from the Property Practitioners Regulatory Authority (PPRA) that is accessible via the following link:

- [2025 Trust Account Audit Reports Submission Reminder.](#)

Should you have any queries, please contact the PPRA directly.

COMMITTEE FOR AUDITING STANDARDS (CFAS)

IAASB Seeks Feedback on the Proposed Narrow-Scope Amendments Related to Using the Work of an External Expert

The IAASB has published an Exposure Draft on the [Proposed Narrow-Scope Amendments to IAASB Standards Arising from the IESBA's Using the Work of an External Expert Project](#).

These proposed amendments are aimed at maintaining interoperability between the IAASB standards and the IESBA's *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (IESBA Code). They address the recent revisions to the IESBA Code related to Using the Work of an External Expert (IESBA External Experts).

The IAASB focused its narrow-scope amendments project on identifying only those targeted amendments to the IAASB standards needed to maintain interoperability with the IESBA Code. From that standpoint, the new provisions in the IESBA Code relate primarily to:

- Evaluating the competence, capabilities and objectivity (CCO) of the external expert, including in connection with agreeing the terms of engagement with the external expert, the provision of certain information in writing by the expert to assist the professional accountant (PA) in evaluating the external expert's objectivity; and
- Concluding on the external expert's CCO, including circumstances in which the PA would be unable to use the work of the external expert.

The targeted amendments focus on the following IAASB standards:

- International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 620, *Using the Work of an Auditor's Expert*.
- International Standard on Review Engagements 2400 (Revised), *Engagements to Review Historical Financial Statements*.
- ISAE 3000 (Revised).
- International Standard on Related Services 4400 (Revised), *Agreed-upon Procedures Engagements*.

The IRBA Code

The IRBA adopted the IESBA Code, published in 2018, together with South African enhancements. Since then, the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (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*. Consequently, the IRBA is currently in the process of adopting the revisions relating to the IESBA External Experts into the IRBA Code.

Request for Comments

Auditors and other interested stakeholders can submit comments directly to the IAASB via its website by **24 July 2025**. Comments were due for submission to the IRBA by 30 June 2025.

A PDF copy of the Exposure Draft is available and may be downloaded from the exposure drafts page of the IRBA website. Also, the response template, in an MS Word format, may be downloaded from the same page.

INTERNATIONAL AUDITING AND ASSURANCE STANDARDS BOARD

IAASB Projects in Progress

- Audit Evidence and Risk Response;
- Experts Narrow Scope Amendments;
- Fraud;
- Review of Interim Financial Information;
- ISA 500 Series;
- Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity (Track 2); and
- Technology.

More information on these projects is available on the IAASB website.

Status of the Adoption of ISSA 5000 in South Africa

In January 2025, the IAASB published [ISSA 5000](#), a principles-based framework for conducting assurance engagements on sustainability information reported by entities. The CFAS and the Committee for Auditor Ethics are co-ordinating efforts to recommend that the IRBA Board adopts ISSA 5000 and localises the IESBA's International Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance (including International Independence Standards) for incorporation into the IRBA Code. The Board is expected to consider these recommendations in the first quarter of 2026.

Status of the Adoption of ISA 570 (Revised 2024) in South Africa

The IAASB published its revised [ISA 570 \(Revised 2024\)](#), *Going Concern*, in April 2025. The revised standard significantly enhances the auditor's work in evaluating management's assessment of an entity's ability to continue as a going concern. The CFAS approved a recommendation to the IRBA Board to adopt the revised standard in May 2025. Subsequent updates on the adoption of the revised standard will be provided following the IRBA Board's deliberation on the CFAS recommendation.

IAASB Publications

During the period under review, the IAASB issued the following:

- [IAASB and IESBA Staff Provide Answers to Key Questions on Implementing ISSA 5000 and IESSA | IAASB.](#)
- [New FAQ on Going Concern Now Available from IAASB | IAASB.](#)
- [IAASB Announces Withdrawal of ISAE 3410 for Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements | IAASB.](#)



Ethics

COMMITTEE FOR AUDITOR ETHICS (CFAE)

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: PROPOSED REVISED IRBA CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR REGISTERED AUDITORS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN ENHANCEMENTS TO THE ETHICS AND INDEPENDENCE STANDARDS FOR SUSTAINABILITY ASSURANCE (PROPOSED REVISED IRBA CODE)

The IRBA's CFAE has approved the Proposed Revised IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors, Incorporating Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance, including Independence Standards and the Standard on Using the Work of an External Expert, with the Necessary South African Enhancements (Exposure Draft) for public comment by **8 August 2025**.

This Exposure Draft forms part of the IRBA's due process to adopt and prescribe, for use by registered auditors in South Africa, the IESBA's *International Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance (including International Independence Standards)* and other related revisions to the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (IESSA) and the *Using the Work of an External Expert Standard*. It proposes South African enhancements to the IESSA only.

Background

The IRBA Code (Revised November 2024) is based on Parts 1, 3, 4A and 4B of the IESBA Code published by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) in September 2024 and used with the permission of IFAC. In the IRBA Code, South African adaptations and amendments to the IESBA Code are underlined and *in italics*. Additionally, the IRBA comments on all proposed amendments to the IESBA Code and considers final amendments to that Code for possible amendments to the IRBA Code.

The IRBA Code is applicable to all registered auditors. A contravention of, or failure to comply with, any requirements in the IRBA Code may be regarded as improper conduct, within the ambit of Section 21 of the Auditing Profession Act 26 of 2005, as amended (APA), or the IRBA Rules Regarding Improper Conduct. As a result, such contravention or failure to comply may be investigated and, if appropriate, the linked registered auditor might be charged in terms of Section 48 of the APA.

Since 2022, the IESBA has been engaged in a Sustainability Project, beginning with the approval of two project proposals related to sustainability reporting and assurance and the use of experts in December of that year. The CFAE has monitored this project and contributed to the development of the IESSA and its associated amendments to the IESBA Code by commenting on the proposed changes, exposing those locally for integration into the IRBA Code and reviewing the final amendments to assess potential South African enhancements to the IRBA Code.

Proposed South African Enhancements

The proposed local enhancements, as briefly highlighted below, are aimed at improving clarity, implementability and the consistent application of these ethics and independence standards, similar to those for financial statement audits.

1. Scope of the Independence Standards in Part 5

Paragraph 5400.3(b) of the Exposure Draft prescribes that the independence standards in Part 5 apply only to sustainability assurance engagements where the sustainability information:

- Is reported in accordance with a general-purpose framework; and
- Is either:
 - Required by law or regulation; or
 - Publicly disclosed to support decision-making by investors or other users.

The proposed local enhancement confirms that a combination of general-purpose frameworks satisfies the objective of meeting the common information needs of a wide range of users through the inclusion of a South African application paragraph, 5400.3b A1 SA, to clarify that if any part of the framework is general-purpose, the scoping criterion is met.

2. Implementation of Independence Provisions in Sections 5405 and 5406

Sections 5405 and 5406 introduce independence provisions that are specific to Group Sustainability Assurance Engagements and engagements involving another practitioner. To assist with the implementation of the international amendments, this proposed South African enhancement found value in referring to the diagrammatic illustrations in the IESSA Basis for Conclusions. The proposal includes inserting these Appendices into the IRBA Code, suggesting they be added to the Appendix to the Independence Standards for Sustainability Assurance Engagements.

3. Fee Disclosure Requirements When Performing Both Audit and Sustainability Assurance Engagements

Paragraph 5400.16(a) of the Exposure Draft prescribes that when a firm undertakes both the audit and the sustainability assurance engagement, the provisions of Part 4A are applicable in addition to those in Part 5. To facilitate the consistent practical application of paragraphs R410.31 and R5410.31 regarding fee disclosure categories and thereby enhance transparency, this proposed local enhancement introduces two new South African-specific requirements in paragraphs R410.31a SA and R5410.31a SA.

4. Other Enhancements

Alongside the proposed new requirements and application paragraphs, the Exposure Draft introduces consequential amendments to extant localisations in Section 321, Second Opinions, and Section 400, Applying the Conceptual Framework to Independence for Audit and Review Engagements. Additionally, certain adaptations have been made to ensure alignment with the extant IRBA Code.

Guide to Reading the Exposure Draft

The Exposure Draft comprises the full IRBA Code text, which includes the IESSA and other related amendments, along with the Using the Work of an External Expert Standard for convenience. However, as its focus is on the proposed South African enhancements to the IESSA, respondents are requested to direct their attention and comments specifically to the proposed local enhancements, which are identified in mark-up, underlined and *in italics*. Sections of the Proposed Revised IRBA Code that are not impacted by the proposed South African enhancements have been greyed out. Input and feedback on these proposed local enhancements will assist the CFAE in finalising this specific area of consideration. The committee appreciates each respondent's co-operation and thoughtful engagement in this feedback process.

Board Notice

Government Gazette No. 52814 of 6 June 2025 (Board Notice 791 of 2025) announced the publication of the Exposure Draft, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10(1)(a) of the APA.

Proposed Effective Date

The CFAE will consider the comments received on this Exposure Draft in finalising the Proposed Revised IRBA Code and then work towards recommending the final pronouncement to the IRBA Board for approval.

Except for the provisions in Sections 5405 and 5406 applicable to assurance work performed at value chain components, these revisions to the IRBA Code will impact sustainability assurance engagements on sustainability information for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2026, or as at a specific date on or after 15 December 2026, and sustainability reporting-related engagements as of 15 December 2026.

The provisions in Sections 5405 and 5406 applicable when assurance work is performed at a value chain component will be effective for sustainability assurance engagements on sustainability information for periods beginning on or after 1 July 2028, or as at a specific date on or after 1 July 2028. For sustainability assurance engagements on sustainability information for periods beginning on, or as at a specific date prior to, 1 July 2028 that involve assurance work performed at a value chain component, additional considerations have been detailed in the Exposure Draft.

The Exposure Draft also includes further transitional provisions. Early adoption of these provisions is permitted.

Request for Comments

The CFAE welcomes comments on all matters that are addressed in the Exposure Draft. Comments are most helpful when they refer to specific paragraphs, include the reasons for the observations and, where appropriate, make specific suggestions for any proposed changes to the wording.

The committee prefers respondents to address each specific request for comments and support those views with detailed remarks, whether supportive or critical. Both types of comments are vital for a balanced perspective on the proposed amendments.

Respondents should email their feedback, in Word format, to standards@irba.co.za. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. The deadline for submission is **8 August 2025**. To download the Exposure Draft, visit the [IRBA website](#).

IESBA CONSULTS ON COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT VEHICLES AND PENSION FUNDS – AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

In March 2025, the IESBA issued, for public comment, a Consultation Paper: [Collective Investment Vehicles and Pension Funds – Auditor Independence](#).

The paper seeks views on whether revisions to the [IESBA Code](#) are necessary to address the independence of auditors when they audit these Investment Schemes. The IESBA aims to ensure that its provisions are clear and fit for purpose in maintaining appropriate auditor independence in such audits.

Collective Investment Vehicles and Pension Funds, collectively referred to as Investment Schemes, enable investors to pool their funds and often rely on external parties (Connected Parties) for functions that are typically managed internally in conventional corporate structures. Consequently, their structure introduces specific relationships that need careful consideration to identify and address threats to auditor independence.

The Consultation Paper then highlights these relationships and seeks input on the following key areas when auditing Investment Schemes:

- The definition of “related entity” in the IESBA Code and its applicability to audits of Investment Schemes.
- The Connected Parties that should be considered in relation to the assessment of auditor independence, with respect to the audit of an Investment Scheme.
- The application of the IESBA Code’s conceptual framework when assessing threats to independence resulting from interests, relationships or circumstances between the auditor of an Investment Scheme and Connected Parties.

Relevance in South Africa

The IRBA adopted the IESBA Code, published in 2018, following the issue of proposed amendments on exposure locally, together with South African enhancements. Its CFAE will consider any anticipated revisions to the IESBA Code for incorporation into the IRBA Code (Revised November 2024).

Request for Comments

Comments were due for submission to the IRBA by 2 June 2025, while those sent directly to the IESBA via its website closed by 30 June 2025. A PDF copy of the Consultation Paper is available and may be downloaded from the [exposure drafts page](#) of the IRBA website.

INTERNATIONAL ETHICS STANDARDS BOARD FOR ACCOUNTANTS

IESBA Projects in Progress

- Collective Investment Vehicles, Pension Funds, and Investment Company Complexes;
- Firm Culture and Governance; and
- Adoption and implementation of the IESBA's standards.

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

Status of the Adoption of IESSA in South Africa

In January 2025, the IESBA published the [International Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance \(including International Independence Standards\)](#), the provisions related to sustainability reporting and the new standard addressing [using the work of an external expert](#) in the IESBA Code. Together, these standards establish a strong ethical foundation for sustainability reporting and assurance engagements. The CFAE and the CFAS are co-ordinating efforts to recommend that the IRBA Board adopts the Revised IRBA Code with South African Enhancements to the Ethics and Independence Standards for Sustainability Assurance, subject to the completion of the due process with respect to the Exposure Draft, and the ISSA 5000. The Board is expected to consider these recommendations in the first quarter of 2026.

IESBA Publications

During the period under review, the IESBA issued the following:

- [IAASB and IESBA Staff Provide Answers to Key Questions on Implementing ISSA 5000 and IESSA | IAASB.](#)
- [IESBA Staff Releases Q&As on the Tax Planning and Related Services Standards in the IESBA Code | Ethics Board.](#)

Should you have any further queries, please email standards@irba.co.za.

Standards Department

Email: standards@irba.co.za



Jillian Bailey
Director Investigations

Investigations

The matters reported in this issue were finalised in the period April to June 2025.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

During the period, the committee met once and referred 21 matters to the Enforcement Committee.

ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee met once during this period and concluded on 26 matters.

Decision Not to Charge

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

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

There were 21 matters finalised by fines issued through an admission of guilt process.

Matter 1

The respondent, Mr Alexandros Philippou, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on revenue and receivables. In addition, there were material uncorrected misstatements identified that were not appropriately addressed by the respondent.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 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 International Financial Reporting Standards and 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 2

The respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence and to exercise an appropriate level of professional scepticism, as required by the ISAs, in relation to revenue recognition and capitalisation of costs.

The respondent was sentenced on the two charges to a total fine of R400 000, of which R200 000 has been suspended for five years, on condition that they are 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. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that they and their staff attend external training on the International Financial Reporting Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Matter 3

The respondent, Mr Mthokozisi Raymond Luthuli, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence and to exercise an appropriate level of professional scepticism, as required by the ISAs, in relation to revenue recognition, valuation of crops and capitalisation of costs.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000, of which R100 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. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that he and his staff attend external training on the International Financial Reporting Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Matter 4

The respondent, Mr Reshagan Angamuthoo Moodley, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence and to exercise an appropriate level of professional scepticism, as required by the ISAs, in relation to revenue recognition, valuation of crops and capitalisation of costs.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000, of which R100 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. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that he and his staff attend external training on the International Financial Reporting Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Matter 5

The respondent, Deloitte & Touche, failed to comply with the requirements of the International Standard on Quality Control (ISQC) 1, as non-compliance with the ISAs was identified across several engagement files, which casts doubt on the ability of the firm's leadership to obtain reasonable assurance that professional standards are complied with, and that audits performed are at a consistently high level of quality. In addition, the deficiencies identified cast doubt on the effectiveness of the respondent's engagement quality control review and monitoring processes.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of the firm's name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

Matter 6

The respondent, Mr Naran Maharajh, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence and to exercise an appropriate level of professional scepticism, as required by the ISAs, in relation to stated capital, valuation of investment properties, management override of controls and consolidation.

The respondent was sentenced on the three 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. In addition, he was referred to the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants' (SAICA) Professional Conduct Committee to determine whether he meets the professional body's fit and proper requirements. Furthermore, should the respondent wish to re-register with the IRBA in the future, he must arrange and ensure that he attends external training on the practical application of the Auditing Standards prior to re-registration, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Matter 7

The respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on material investments, opening balances, contingent liabilities, subsequent events, as well as related party balances, transactions and disclosures.

The respondent was sentenced on the two charges to a total fine of R350 000, of which R175 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that they are 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. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that they and their staff attend external training on the International Financial Reporting Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Matter 8

The matter was referred by the Inspections Committee (INSCOM). The respondent failed to comply with the IRBA Code and the ethical requirements of ISQC 1, as there were several findings related to independence. Also, the respondent failed to maintain the integrity of engagement documentation, as audit files were altered after the audit reports were signed and subsequent to receiving notification of inspection.

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 in general terms.

Matter 9

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Ms Tiana Kluyts, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on goodwill and trade receivables. Furthermore, it could not be confirmed that the sample selected for the revenue cycle was sufficient and appropriate for the test of control procedures performed. In addition, the respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence relating to the valuation of intangible assets of a subsidiary.

The respondent was sentenced on the two charges to a total fine of R350 000, of which R175 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; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of her name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that she and her 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 10

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Mr Sechaba Thole, failed to identify, evaluate and address the threat to independence created by preparing and auditing the same set of financial statements. He also failed to comply with ISA 240, regarding fraud discussions and risk assessment procedures relevant to revenue recognition and management override of controls. Furthermore, he failed to appropriately assess the impact of uncorrected misstatements.

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; 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 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 11

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Ms Aadila Aboobaker, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, relating to insurance premium income, deferred taxation asset, insurance liabilities, trade and other receivables and the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000, of which R100 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. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that she and her 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 12

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Nexia SAB&T, failed to demonstrate compliance with its quality control practices and the ability of the firm's leadership to obtain reasonable assurance that professional standards are complied with and that audits performed are at a consistently high level of quality, as required by ISQC 1. The charge included non-compliance identified across several engagement files that were inspected.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 000; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of the firm's name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

Matter 13

The respondent failed to identify a threat to independence and apply appropriate safeguards, as required by the IRBA Code. In addition, the respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on trade creditors, inventory and employee expenditure for two consecutive years.

The respondent was sentenced on the two charges to a total fine of R300 000, of which R150 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that they are 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 14

There is no evidence that an engagement quality control review was performed to reduce the familiarity threat to an acceptable level. In addition, the respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on trade creditors, employee expenditure and inventory.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R150 000, of which R75 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that they are 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 respondent, Mr Darshen Govender, failed to perform adequate audit procedures, as required by the ISAs, on the risk management disclosures (credit risk and interest rate risk) in the annual financial statements for three consecutive years.

The respondent was sentenced on the three charges to a total fine of R300 000, of which R150 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.

Matter 16

The respondent failed to comply with the Auditor-General South Africa's Directives, issued in terms of the Public Audit Act, as deviations were noted regarding investigations that were reported in the audit report as part of the respondent's responsibility relating to other legal and regulatory requirements.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R100 000, of which R50 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that they are 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, Mr Hendrik Petrus Odendaal, failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, on pumping costs that were capitalised under property, plant and equipment.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R200 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 SAICA Professional Conduct Committee to determine whether he meets the professional body's fit and proper requirements.

Matter 18

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Mr Carl Matthew Visser, failed to identify non-compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards relating to revenue recognition and measurement.

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; 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 International Financial Reporting Standards within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Matter 19

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Mr Gino Earl Fraser, failed to perform appropriate audit procedures to identify non-cash items in the statement of cash flows.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R100 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 SAICA Professional Conduct Committee to determine whether he meets the professional body's fit and proper requirements.

Matter 20

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent, Ms Joelene Nicolette Pierce, failed to perform appropriate audit procedures to identify non-cash items in the statement of cash flows.

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; no order as to costs; and publication by the IRBA of her name, the findings of the investigation and the sanction imposed.

Matter 21

The matter was a referral from the INSCOM. The respondent failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence, as required by the ISAs, regarding the classification of other financial liabilities and the valuation of investment property. Furthermore, the respondent failed to identify material misstatements in the statement of cash flows.

The respondent was sentenced to a fine of R150 000, of which R75 000 has been suspended for three years, on condition that they are 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. Furthermore, the respondent must arrange and ensure that they and their staff attend external training on the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities within 60 days of the imposition of the sentence, and must provide evidence of compliance to the IRBA.

Decision to Charge and Matters Referred for a Disciplinary Hearing

No matters were referred to the Legal Department for disciplinary hearings.

Jillian Bailey

Director Investigations

Email: investigations@irba.co.za



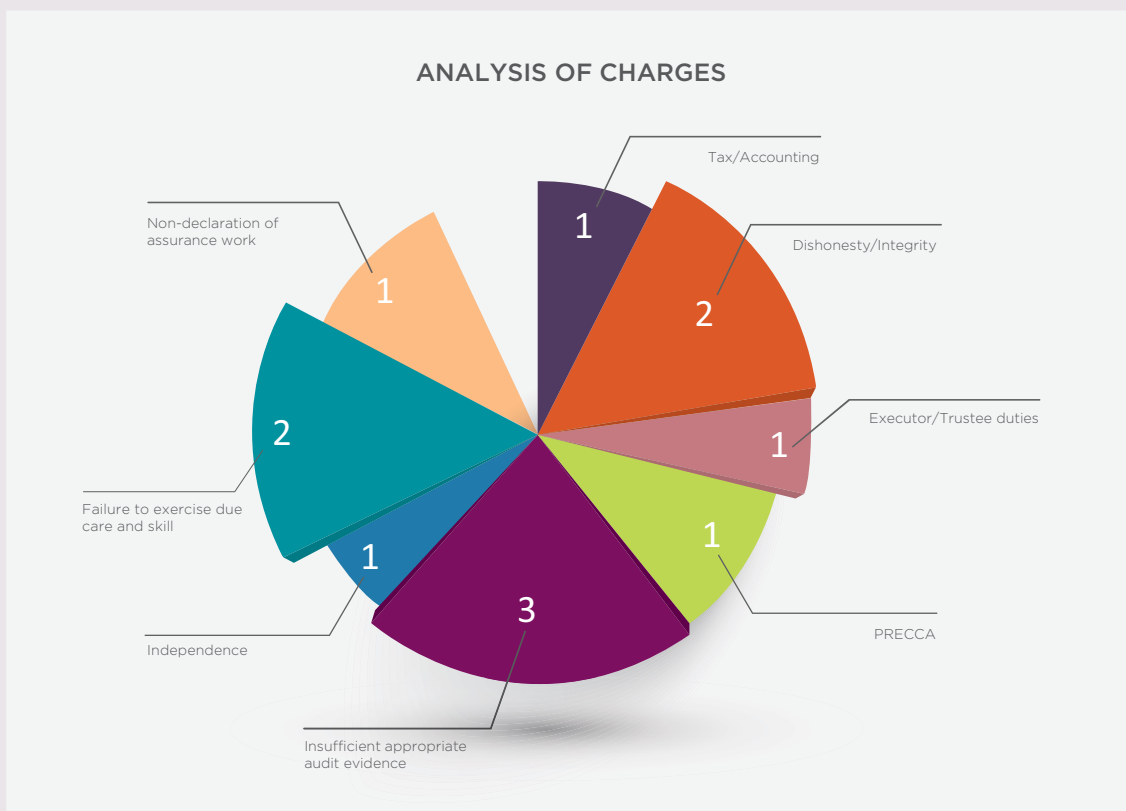
Rebecca Motsepe
Director Legal

Legal

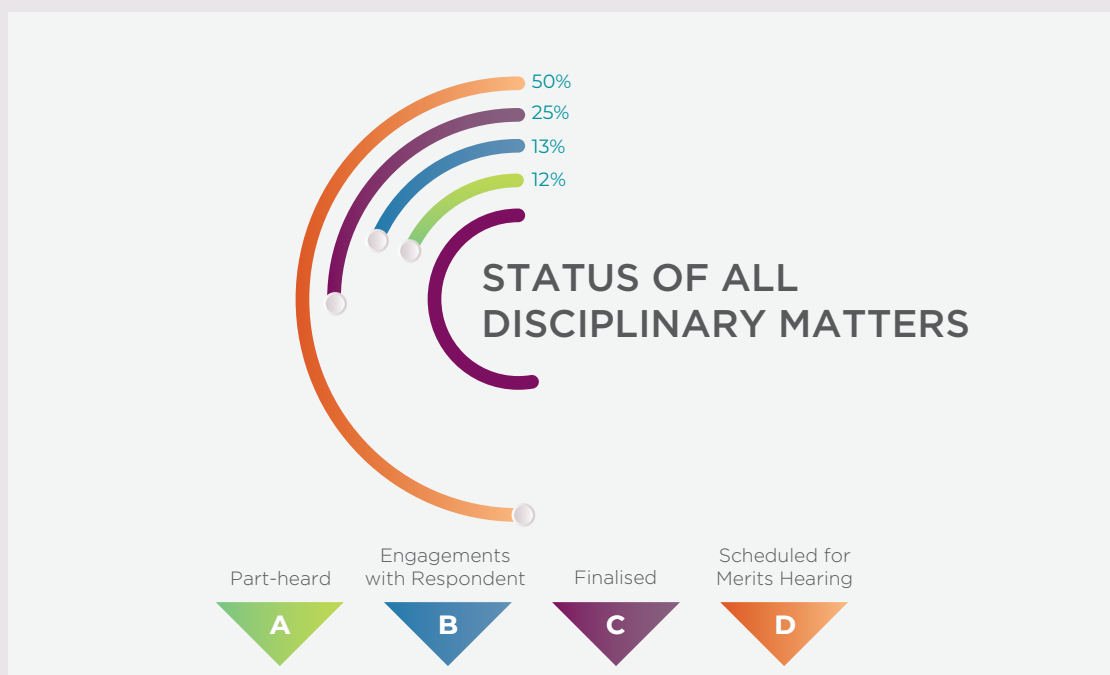
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

Overview of the Matters Referred for Disciplinary Hearings

With two matters having been finalised in the current reporting period, there are now six matters pending disciplinary hearings. These matters are at different stages of the disciplinary process. The graphics below outline the nature and status of all the open disciplinary matters.



Note: The current open matters involve eight categories of improper conduct. The most common charge among the matters remains insufficient appropriate audit evidence. Other charges include dishonesty and integrity issues; the failure to exercise due care and skill; independence-related infractions; tax/accounting breaches; breach of executor or trustee duties; infractions related to the Prevention and Combatting of Corrupt Activities Act (PRECCA); and failure to declare assurance work.



Note: As reflected in the above chart, 25% of the matters were finalised in quarter one of this financial year. Among those that are pending, hearing notifications have been issued in 50% of the matters. Settlement engagements between the parties are underway in respect of 13% of the matters, while the remaining 12% is part-heard and awaiting the continuation of the merits hearings.

Finalised Matters

As indicated above, during the period under review, two matters previously referred for disciplinary hearings were finalised. This was accomplished through settlements, which culminated in the respondents admitting to the charges and ultimately led to the imposition of sanctions. Below is a summary of the finalised matters.

IRBA vs MFS

The respondent was charged with improper conduct in that while an employee, they, without authority, signed a letter/directors' resolution on the letterhead of the entity, purporting to be its director. Then, the respondent authorised the sale of the company's property to an entity in which their immediate family members were directors and on behalf of which the respondent signed the Sale and Transfer Agreement as a director. Despite the respondent having later transferred the property back to the company, they were charged with breaching the provisions of the IRBA Code, which calls on professionals to act objectively and be straightforward and honest in all their professional dealings.

The respondent pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined the maximum allowable fine of R200 000. Additionally, the respondent was permanently disqualified from re-registering as a registered auditor; no cost order was imposed; and publication was ordered in general terms only.

IRBA vs DJP

The respondent, who was at all material times an auditor registered with the IRBA, was charged with improper conduct, due to a long-standing audit relationship of more than 15 years with a client. The charge related to the respondent's failure to properly assess and address familiarity and self-interest threats to independence, as required by the IRBA Code.

The respondent admitted guilt, resulting in the following sanction:

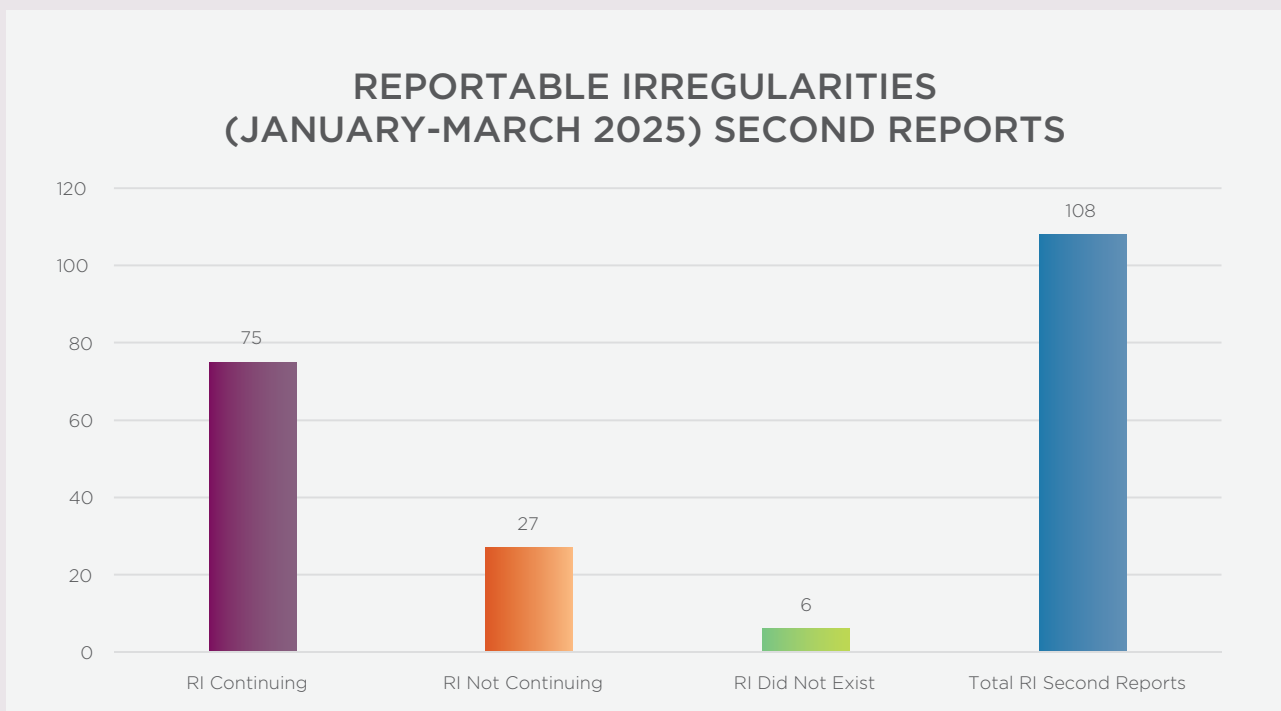
- (a) A fine of R100 000, with R50 000 suspended for three years;
- (b) A contribution of R420 005.48 towards the IRBA's costs; and
- (c) Publication of the matter in general terms only.

Upcoming Hearings

The Disciplinary Panel is scheduled to convene from 22-23 July 2025 and again on 12-15 August 2025, to determine the various charges of improper conduct preferred against two respondents. The details of the hearings will be published on the IRBA website close to the hearing dates.

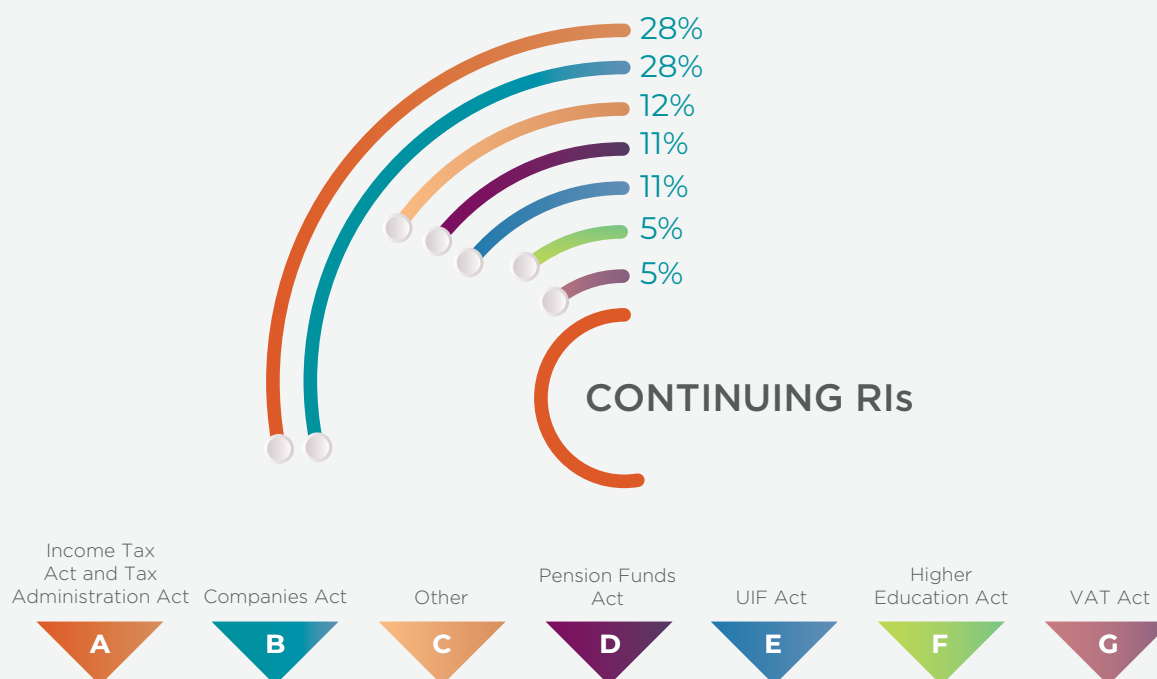
REPORTABLE IRREGULARITIES (RIs)

During January and March 2025, the IRBA received and processed 109 first reportable irregularity reports and 108 corresponding second reports¹. The nature of the 108 second reports received is highlighted in the graph below.



¹ These are reported quarterly in arrears.

The chart below reflects the 75 continuing RIs received, categorised by nature.



Note: As depicted above, the top four types of reported contraventions related to the Companies Act and its Regulations; the Income Tax Act, together with the Tax Administration Act; the Pension Funds Act; and the Unemployment Insurance Fund Act.

Additionally, there were several RIs highlighting contraventions of the Higher Education Act and the Value-Added Tax Act. The contraventions listed under “other” include, among others, breaches of the Sectional Titles Schemes Management Act and its accompanying Regulations; PRECCA; the Labour Relations Act; and the Trust Property Control Act.

All second reports indicating continuing reportable irregularities were sent to the relevant regulators and/or authorities, in line with the provisions of the Auditing Profession Act, as amended, for further action. The one outstanding second report will be escalated according to the IRBA processes.

Updated Industry Classifications for RI Reports

The IRBA has updated and expanded the current list of industry classifications contained in our RI processing system. As such, registered auditors are reminded to provide, in their first RI reports, an indication of the industries within which their clients operate, using the descriptions contained in the updated industry listing, an extract of which is provided below. Where the clients audited operate in multiple industries, RI reports should provide an indication of the industry that represents the client's main source of revenue.

A List of the Various Industries

Accounting and auditing services	Graphic design and animation	Political parties
Advertising sector	Group investment holdings and other investment holdings	Professional membership bodies
Agriculture, farming, fishing, forestry	Group shared services	Property industry, including property development, managing agents and estate agents
Associations	Healthcare sector, hospitals and pharmaceutical services, excluding medical aids	Publishing agencies
Banking sector	Hospitality sector: Other	Refineries
Bargaining councils	Hotels, conference centres and restaurants	Refuse removal, recycling services
Beauty salons and spas	Information and technology sector	Renewable energies
Body corporates and home owners associations	Insurance industry, short term	Renovators of buildings, structures, etc.
Chemical industry	Laboratory services	Retail trade: Household items, food, beverages, tobacco, etc.
Churches and religious institutions	Legal practitioners, including attorney trust accounts	Retail trade: Other
Cleaning services	Local municipalities	Retirement villages
Clubs	Long term insurance industry	Rewards and loyalty programmes
Construction industry, including building suppliers	Manufacture of bearings, gearboxes, transmissions and other machinery parts	Scrap metal dealers
Consultation services: Other	Manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus	Security industry
Consulting engineers	Manufacture of electronic goods	Sewage and water treatment plants
Correctional services	Manufacture of fertilizers	Share block schemes

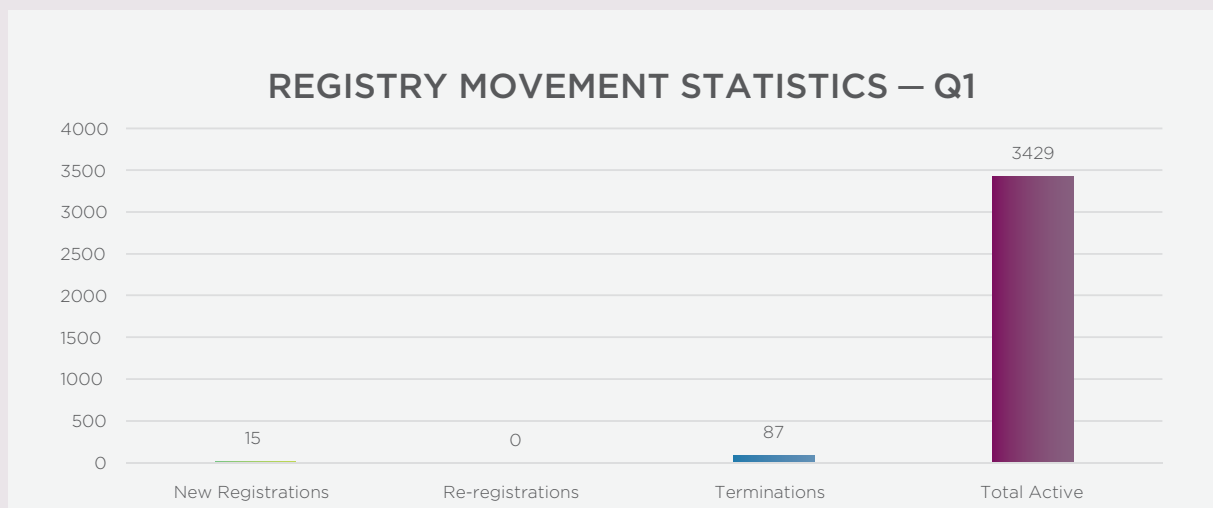
A List of the Various Industries

Councils and boards	Manufacture of food products, beverages, tobacco products	Short-term credit and micro lending industry
Courier services	Manufacture of machinery	Short-term insurance industry
Day care centres and creches	Manufacture of textiles, clothing, leather goods	Social welfare, non-profit organisations
Dormant entity	Manufacturing of other goods not specified	Sports and recreational services
Education sector: Other	Medical aids	Taxi services and taxi associations
Education sector: Schools	Mining and quarrying	Telecommunications industry
Education sector: Universities, colleges	Modelling agencies	Trade unions
Entertainment industry, including casinos	Motor vehicle industry: Sales, repairs and maintenance	Transportation and freight services: Combined air, land and sea
Event management	Museums	Transportation and freight services: Air
Fidelity funds	News agencies: Online, printed, radio and television	Transportation and freight services: Road and rail
Film industry	Other industries not specified	Transportation and freight services: Sea
Financial advisory, investment managers and taxation services	Packaging	Trusts
Funds	Pension, provident or retirement funds	Veterinary services
Fresh produce markets	Performing arts	
Funeral services	Petroleum and petrochemical industry	Warehousing services
Government and public entities		

Registry

OVERVIEW OF REGISTRY MOVEMENTS

As at the end of the fourth quarter of the 2024/2025 financial year, there were 3 429 registered auditors (RAs) in the IRBA register, following the registration of 15 and the termination of 87. The chart below provides an overview of the registry movements during the reporting period.



New Registrations

The table below lists the names of the RAs who were entered into the register.

INDIVIDUALS NEWLY ADMITTED TO THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 9 DECEMBER 2024 TO 27 MARCH 2025

Bellingan, Adele
Bothma, Natasha
Chule, Nomthandazo
Govender, Nivashnie
Jacobs, Simone
Kulube, Mbokeni
Lochner, Grethe Lourette
Matlala, Asnath Kwena
Mphephu, Rofhiwa
Nandlal, Ashmeetha
Naude, Ruaan Johannes
Ngxabi, Asithandile
Rangila, Zahra
Sachdeva, Hina
Van Zyl, Paula-Marie

RA Terminations

As indicated above, 87 RAs were removed from the register during the current reporting period. Below is a list of the removals, including the related reasons for those actions.

INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 26 MARCH 2025 TO 23 JUNE 2025

Abba, Fatima	Resigned
Abbott, Bernadette Marie	Resigned
Bahlmann, Erhardt Odiel	Passed away
Bardien, Mogamat Zahid	Resigned
Berry, Graeme Michael	Resigned
Blom, Cornelius Marinus	Resigned
Botha, Willem Johannes Jacobus	Emigrated
Bourne, Michael Frederick John	Resigned
Cambanis, George	Passed away
Carrol, Mervyn	Resigned
Coovadia, Faatema	Resigned
Cronje, Philippus Frans	Resigned
Dall, Keith James	Resigned
Davis, Brigitte	Resigned
De Freitas, Lauren Lynn	Resigned
De Lange, Gavin Leslie	Emigrated
Den Drijver, John	Resigned
Deveugele, Ilona	Resigned
Dharamlall, Lallchand	Resigned
Du Plessis, Izak Gerhardus	Resigned
Du Plooy, John Anthony	Emigrated
Earlam, Patrick John	Resigned
Engelbrecht, Bianca	Resigned
Essa, Farzinda	Resigned
Flanagan, Daniel Mark	Resigned
Fouche, Marcelle	Emigrated
Freer, Mark Alexander	Resigned
Gerryts, Hermanus Francois	Resigned
Greyling, Bester Ebersohn	Resigned
Halenyane, Onalenna	Resigned
Haskins, Gregory	Resigned
Henderson, Leonie	Resigned
Hoffman, Mark Cecil Anthony	Resigned
Hofmeyr, Roland Johnston	Resigned
Jacobs, Adriaan Stephanus	Resigned
Kajie, Hassen	Resigned
Khan, Mohsin	Resigned

INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 26 MARCH 2025 TO 23 JUNE 2025

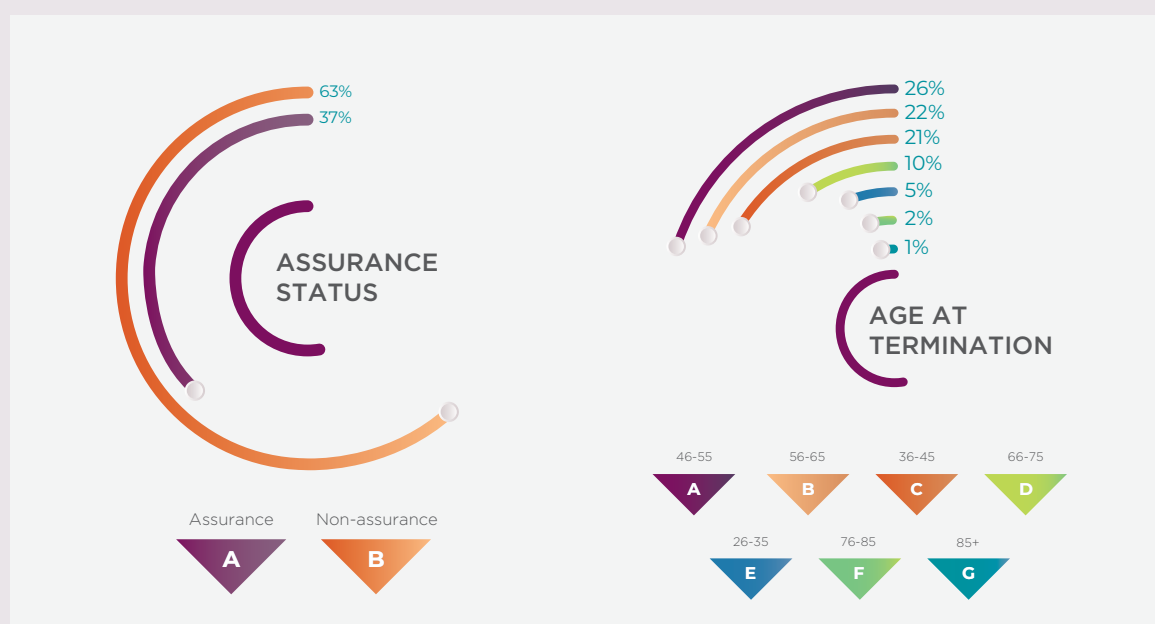
Koornhof, Carolina	Resigned
Kotze, Dirk Albertus	Resigned
Kriel, Johannes Nicolaas	Resigned
Kruger, Anneke	Resigned
Lochner, Grethe Lourette	Resigned
Mackie, Andrew Fraser	Resigned
Mahlobo, Sandile Sihle	Resigned
Malapela, Kabelo	Resigned
Mazzocco, Kasurthrie Justine	Resigned
Mc Hardy, Neil	Resigned
Mc Phee, Sean David	Resigned
Meyer, Jennie Rensia	Resigned
Moodley, Jared	Resigned
Mullins, Candice Janine	Resigned
Myburgh, Gert	Resigned
Naidoo, Sudasha	Resigned
Ndadana, Goodman Thamsanqa	Emigrated
Norkie, Fatima	Resigned
Oosthuizen, Ansie Pistorius	Resigned
Potgieter, Elsie Davina	Passed away
Rajoo, Anil Ramdass	Resigned
Redfearn, Ruwayda	Resigned
Reinecke, Karen Elizabeth	Resigned
Schenk, Danika	Resigned
Schoeman, Johan Barnard	Resigned
Scholtz, Anthea Karen	Resigned
Schroeder, Annemarie	Resigned
Scott, Ian Murray	Resigned
Scott, Stephen Bruce	Resigned
Shaikh, Mohammed Yacoob	Resigned
Sing, Navin	Resigned
Singh, Kumeshnee	Resigned
Smith, Jan Scheltema	Resigned
Soni, Thrisha	Resigned
Stewart, Mark Edward	Resigned
Steyn, Annette	Resigned
Swanepoel, Montaque Brian	Emigrated
Uys, Theunis Oosthuizen	Resigned
Van Coller, Hermanus Stephanus	Resigned
Van Den Berg, Linda	Resigned
Van Der Laan, Jacob Geert	Resigned
Van Der Merwe, Hendrik	Passed away

INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE IRBA FROM 26 MARCH 2025 TO 23 JUNE 2025

Van Der Walt, Johandi	Emigrated
Van Wyk, Johan Diederik	Passed away
Victor, Mark Wayne	Resigned
Viljoen, Dorothea Magdalena	Resigned
Vorster, Jacoba Maria	Resigned
Wentzel, Anton	Resigned
Wolder, Clinton Ryan	Resigned
Worms, Angelique	Resigned

The most prevalent reason for removal from the register appears to be due to firm restructuring, with the affected RAs no longer performing audits. This is followed by RAs who have retired from practice.

The graphs below provide the age and assurance status split with respect to those RAs who were removed from the register, the majority of whom were between 36 and 65 years of age and not performing assurance work.



In addition, below is a list of all the RAs who were lapsed for the non-payment of their individual annual fees or cancelled for the non-submission of their Individual Annual Returns during the 2024/2025 financial year.

Lapses

INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE BOARD FOR THE NON-PAYMENT OF THE 2024/2025 INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL FEES

Boutselis, George
Buch, Ronald
Chitima, Nelson

INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE BOARD FOR THE NON-PAYMENT OF THE 2024/2025 INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL FEES

Dzingwe, Phumeza Nicholas
Essey, John George
Fourie, Elisa Johannes Wepener
Hlela, Sicelo Conrad
Jacobs, Daniel Jacobus
Kgaphola, Khutso Mashiloane
Kirsten, Ismari Daleen
Lachman, Shandhir Anand
Mafoko, Reaaleboga Dorothea Eva
Mkhwanazi, Sifiso John
Modise, Charles
Mojapelo, Ntokozo Busisiwe
Mudau, Sedzani Faith
Munitich, Alan Dudley
Padi, Itumeleng Stephen
Pandya, Abhinav
Phillips, Grant Stuart
Ramusi, Sibongile Lesetja
Read, Neil Thomas
Scott, Trevor William
Simunic, Lizemarie
Smith, Anthony John
Tsotetsi, Dimakatso Teressa
Van Der Westhuizen, Letitia
Volschenk, Jolandi
Vorster, Wilna
Vuso, Matsotso Johanna

Cancellations

INDIVIDUALS REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF THE BOARD FOR THE NON-SUBMISSION OF THE 2024/2025 INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL RETURNS

Anderson, Susan Aletta
Brown, Grant Peter
Reece, Roger Brian
Robertson, Denis Alexander
Stretton, Catherine Elizabeth
Van Der Walt, Barend Johannes
Venniker, Jeremy Anthony
Venter, Abraham Casparus

ANNUAL RENEWAL PROCESS

Registered auditors are reminded that the deadline for the submission of Individual Annual Returns and the payment of annual fees for the 2025/2026 annual renewal cycle has passed already. If you have not yet paid your annual renewal fees, as prescribed by the IRBA, or submitted your annual returns, please urgently do so to avoid your registration being lapsed or terminated in line with the provisions of the Auditing Profession Act, as amended.

Rebecca Motsepe

Director Legal

Telephone: (010) 496 0600

Email: legal@irba.co.za



Nadine Kater
Director Education and Transformation

Education & Transformation

DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE AUDIT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (ADP)

Learning Management System (LMS)

The focus for the ADP Reloaded has been to automate the entire ADP process through an LMS. This system is a software application used for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of educational courses, training programmes, as well as learning and development initiatives. Consequently, the development and implementation of an LMS has been a crucial project because we recognise that the success of the ADP Reloaded is highly dependent on an automated and digitised end-to-end system.

Now, the system has been developed and the testing phase completed. The first phase of implementation is currently underway, with 200 registered candidate auditors (RCAs) that recently registered on the ADP having been loaded onto the LMS. Those who have been on the ADP for more than 12 months will have the option to submit their Portfolios of Evidence either via the LMS or manually. As from 1 April 2026, all RCAs will have been loaded onto the system.

ADP STATS FOR FY 2025/2026 (1 March 2025-30 June 2025)

Opening	683
Registrations	45
Completed	-25
De-registrations	0
Total RCAs currently on the ADP	703

ADP Firm Monitoring Inspections

These monitoring visits are an integral process within the programme and are performed to manage the quality of the RCAs' training. Also, they are designed to assess the quality of the environment in which the RCAs are obtaining their experience and relevant competencies to become skilled RAs.

The visits focus on the implementation of the quality standards, i.e. the International Standard on Quality Management (ISQM) 1 and ISQM 2.

During the first quarter of this year, the IRBA conducted 12 ADP monitoring visits at the firms noted in the accompanying table.

Firm 1	Boshoff Visser Inc.
Firm 2	Classen Stone Chartered Accountants & Auditors
Firm 3	Reyneke Erasmus (Revisit)
Firm 4	Deloitte JHB
Firm 5	HLM CMA Inc.
Firm 6	Khumalo & Mabuya (KXX)
Firm 7	MASA Inc.
Firm 8	MMB consulting
Firm 9	Chris Becker and Co.
Firm 10	Ashton Cas Inc.
Firm 11	A2A Kopano Inc.
Firm 12	Zuydam Konsult

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TOP PERFORMING AUDITING STUDENTS

The IRBA is delighted to recognise the outstanding achievements of our top-performing auditing students, who are highlighted below. These individuals have demonstrated exceptional dedication, hard work and excellence in their studies, and we look forward to following them on their respective professional journeys.

Varsity College

Varsity College Cape Town

STUDENT	AWARD
Marc Pludemann	Bachelor of Accounting- Top Auditing 3 student

Varsity College Distance

STUDENT	AWARD
Linda Opperman	Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting (Top Auditing 4 Student)
Zoë Louise Odendaal	Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting (Top Auditing 4 Student)

Varsity College Pretoria

STUDENT	AWARD
Maston Allibi Peter	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3 Student

Varsity College Westville

STUDENT	AWARD
Shanay Neveling	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 2 Student)
Kyle Gengiah	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3 Student

IIE MSA

STUDENT	AWARD
Keegan Chase Musgrove	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3 Student
Matthew Dean Karam	Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting – Top Auditing 4 Student

University of the Witwatersrand

Wits Margo Steele School of Accountancy

STUDENT	AWARD
Ariel Richard	Bachelor of Accounting Science – Highest First Class Pass in Auditing 2
Jayden Smith	Bachelor of Accounting Science – Highest First Class Pass in Auditing 3
Gamlath Ralalage Sanjika Senarathne	Bachelor of Accounting Science – Highest First Class Pass in Auditing 3
Bilal Said	Bachelor of Accounting Science with Honours – Highest First Class Pass in Auditing 4
Masaka None	Post Graduate Diploma in Specialised Accountancy – Top Advanced Audit and Assurance Student
Bulane Mashamaite	Post Graduate Diploma in Specialised Accountancy – Top Advanced Audit and Assurance Student

University of KwaZulu-Natal

UKZN SAICA Awards

STUDENT	AWARD
Sisanda Vilakazi	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 200 Student (Westville Campus)
Bhavna Ramdihin	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 200 Student (Pietermaritzburg Campus)
Tahiya Essa	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3A Student (Westville Campus)
Simon De Jager	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3A Student (Pietermaritzburg Campus)
Natasha June Robinson	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3B Student (Westville Campus)
Joshlon Govender	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Auditing 3B Student (Pietermaritzburg Campus)
Akhil Harrydhasret	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Advanced Auditing Student (Westville Campus)
Sanaa Suliman	Bachelor of Accounting – Top Advanced Auditing Student (Pietermaritzburg Campus)

Nelson Mandela University

STUDENT	AWARD
Tinotenda Tawuya	Auditing 3 CA Stream – 1 st Position
Wian Pieterse	Auditing 3 CA Stream – 2 nd Position
Michaela van Niekerk	Auditing 3 General Stream – 1 st Position
Shavonne Frazenburg	Auditing 3 General Stream – 2 nd Position

STUDENT	AWARD
Zolisa Tshayana	Auditing 3 General Stream – 2 nd Position
Hanru van Vreden	Auditing CTA – 2 nd Position
Demi Jonck	Auditing CTA – 3 rd Position



In Recognition of Talent: *The 59th Annual Accounting Sciences Prizegiving at the Nelson Mandela University was hosted by the School of Accounting.*

PARTNERING TO IMPART KNOWLEDGE AND HELP STUDENTS CHART THEIR CAREER PATHS

The Education and Transformation Department (ET) proudly participated at the University of Venda Careers Exhibition 2025, which was hosted in collaboration with the Careers Exhibition and Information Association. The five-day event spanned from 5-9 May 2025, with ET attending the sessions that took place on the 6th and 7th. During those two days, it had the opportunity to engage with over 6 000 students, sharing insights and career guidance.

The department also took part in the university's Career Exploration Day on 22 May 2025. At that event, it engaged with about 200 final year BCom Accounting Science, BCom Accounting and Postgraduate students, providing them with insights into the auditing profession and the path to become a registered auditor.



Prospective Future Professionals: *Learners had an opportunity to discover more about what is required to work towards a career in the auditing and accounting profession.*

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PERCEPTIONS – COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK REVIEW PROJECT

As part of our comprehensive Competency Framework Review Project, we embarked on an extensive stakeholder engagement process, to ensure that the new framework reflects the diverse needs and expectations of stakeholders. This multi-faceted approach allowed us to gather invaluable insights on the themes briefly highlighted below from a broad spectrum of stakeholders that ranged from industry professionals to IRBA teams and academic experts, with each contributing their unique perspectives.

- **Leadership and Self-Leadership:** Stakeholders emphasised the importance of leadership qualities, including ethical decision-making, self-regulation and the ability to manage people efficiently, while maintaining a high ethical standard. Effective leaders should be able to manage complexity, navigate uncertainty and lead diverse teams with values-based influence.
- **Emotional Wellness and Psychological Safety:** The significance of and the necessity for psychological resilience and wellness strategies to thrive in high-pressure environments was underscored. Competency indicators must reflect self-awareness, empathy, emotional agility and the ability to tolerate and manage stress effectively.
- **Digital Fluency and Ethical AI Use:** With the rapid advancement of technology, stakeholders emphasised the need for auditors to utilise digital tools effectively, critically interpret their outputs and ensure the ethical use of AI. This involves a strong grasp of systems thinking, analytics literacy and technological accountability.
- **Professional Scepticism and Inquisitiveness:** A questioning mindset and the ability to critically interrogate information were pointed out as being indispensable for auditors. Stakeholders further emphasised the importance of open enquiry and independence of thought, to ensure that auditors can effectively challenge assumptions and scrutinise data.
- **Business Acumen and Contextual Intelligence:** An understanding of business models, operational flows and industry contexts was noted as what enables auditors to conduct more meaningful risk assessments. Auditors also need to demonstrate the ability to analyse business environments holistically.
- **Coaching, Mentorship and Intergenerational Engagement:** The human dimension of professional growth, particularly across generational cohorts, was underlined, with competence in coaching, mentorship and effective engagement across different generations noted as crucial. The importance of transferring knowledge, nurturing talent and fostering a collaborative environment was also highlighted.
- **Continuing Professional Development Alignment and Lifelong Learning:** These were identified as the key components of the Competency Framework. Stakeholders further emphasised the need for ongoing and contextually-relevant development, to ensure that auditors remain current with industry trends and best practices.
- **Environmental, Social and Governance and Sustainability Assurance:** Highlighted as an emerging focus area, stakeholders pointed out the growing need for auditors to analyse non-financial information, stakeholder reporting and sustainability narratives. This includes developing interpretive and qualitative analytical skills.
- **Regulatory Complexity and Risk Culture Navigation:** This theme was identified as one that cuts across technical and ethical domains, and defined as the ability to navigate regulatory ambiguity and manage risk cultures. Audit professionals must understand the regulatory landscape and apply the relevant principles in ambiguous scenarios. Competence in navigating regulatory tension, risk-based thinking and the ability to recognise ethical ambiguity are also central to this theme.

Through this stakeholder engagement process, we were able to identify and integrate these critical themes into our Competency Framework Review Project. We are confident that the new framework will better equip registered auditors to meet the evolving demands of the profession and deliver exceptional value in their roles.

MONITORING OF THE ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL BODIES

The IRBA's monitoring process for SAICA and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants South Africa (ACCA SA) entered its second year in April 2025, as part of the ongoing five-year accreditation cycle. The Monitoring Committee has received the professional bodies' second year submissions and commenced with its evaluation. Both monitoring reports will be issued in the next quarter.

South African Institute of Chartered Accountants

The regulator continues to monitor SAICA's core assessment programme, as the professional body transitions from the Initial Test of Competence to the Initial Assessment of Competence (IAC). The second sitting of the IAC was conducted from 24-27 June 2025.

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants South Africa

The Monitoring Committee has approved the approach for ACCA SA's Competency-Based Assessment, and preparations for its implementation are underway. This programme is designed to offer a structured pathway for ACCA SA members to be eligible to enrol on the ADP.

The next ACCA SA Centre-Based Examinations are scheduled to take place from 1-5 September 2025.

Other Professional Bodies

The IRBA remains in regular communication with the accounting professional bodies that are seeking its accreditation. The Secretariat offers support to these bodies, providing guidance on the policies and procedures related to an accreditation.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Africa Congress of Accountants (ACOA)

The IRBA attended the ACOA in May 2025, along with 2 000 professional accountants and key stakeholders that represented more than 53 countries from across Africa and beyond. This landmark event offered unparalleled opportunities to form connections, learn from others and be exposed to innovations in the accountancy ecosystem.

A key outcome with regard to education was the advancement of a unified vision for "future-fit accountants" through a Common Core Competency Framework tailored to Africa's dynamic economic and regulatory landscape.

Nadine Kater

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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.

13 June 2025	<u>An Alert on the Latest Communication from the Property Practitioners Regulatory Authority on the 2025 Audit Report Submissions</u>
6 June 2025	<u>Request for Comments: Proposed Revised IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors with South African Enhancements to the Ethics and Independence Standards for Sustainability Assurance (Proposed Revised IRBA Code)</u>
4 June 2025	<u>IRBA Strengthens Auditor Accountability with Record Enforcement Actions in 2023/2024</u>
26 May 2025	<u>IRBA Issues Feedback Statement on the Post-implementation Review of Its SAAEPS 1, Sustainability Assurance Engagements: Rational Purpose, Appropriateness of Underlying Subject Matter and Suitability of Criteria</u>
19 May 2025	<u>IRBA Concludes Successful Roadshows on Audit Quality</u>
19 May 2025	<u>Attractiveness of the Accountancy Profession Research Study</u>
16 May 2025	<u>IAASB Seeks Feedback on the Proposed Narrow-Scope Amendments Related to Using the Work of an External Expert</u>
13 May 2025	<u>Artificial Intelligence in Finance – Shaping the Future Webinar Summary, Recording and Presentation Slides Now Available</u>
23 April 2025	<u>IESBA Consults on Collective Investment Vehicles and Pension Funds – Auditor Independence</u>
23 April 2025	<u>IRBA News Edition 69 is Now Available on the Website</u>
15 April 2025	<u>IRBA Re-elected to the IFIAR Board</u>
9 April 2025	<u>IRBA Audit Quality Roadshows 2025 - Launch of the Public Inspections Report</u>
2 April 2025	<u>Webinar Invitation – Artificial Intelligence in Finance: Shaping the Future</u>
2 April 2025	<u>2025 Annual Renewal</u>
2 April 2025	<u>Fees Payable to the IRBA with Effect from 1 April 2025</u>



General News

At the May 2025 Plenary Meeting of the AFIAAR, the IRBA CEO, Imre Nagy, was returned to the forum's Board as the elected Vice-Chairman for a two-year term ending on 30 June 2027. As already mentioned in the CEO's Perspective, he will be supported by Rebecca Motsepe, Director Legal, as the alternate member. The IRBA, a founding member of the AFIAAR, has not served as a Board member since 2020.

The other Vice-Chairman elected at the meeting was Pius Aloysius Maneno, the Director-General of Tanzania's National Board of Accountants and Auditors. The Chairman, Viswajithsing Tuhobol, who is the CEO of Mauritius' Financial Reporting Council, was re-elected for a second term.

Our CEO's return to the Board indicates the high esteem in which the IRBA is held across the globe. As Admire Ndurunduru, the AFIAAR Executive Director, said: "These appointments reflect the AFIAAR's commitment to strengthening the regulatory ecosystem for accounting and auditing in Africa. The collective expertise of the new leadership team reinforces the AFIAAR's mission to enhance investor confidence and build regulatory capacity on the continent."

Commenting on his appointment, Nagy said: "It is our goal to strengthen independent accounting and auditing regulators in Africa, and support the establishment of these where none exist. Over the past few years, the IRBA has been instrumental in assisting Namibia and Zimbabwe, which have both adopted our Audit Development Programme for the training of registered auditors in their respective countries. Our Inspections team has also assisted the Botswana Accountancy Oversight Authority and, more recently, the Kenyan regulator with their inspections methodologies. Ntlambi Gulwa, our Director Inspections, chairs the AFIAAR Inspections Working Group; Jillian Bailey, Director Investigations, serves on the Enforcement Working Group; and Saadiya Adam, who just took over as the Director Standards, serves on the Standards Working Group. This supports the intention to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, information and practical experiences in the accounting and auditing environment, with regard to regulatory activities, through peer learning."

The IRBA looks forward to contributing to the AFIAAR Board and remains committed to regulatory collaboration. Its support of independent audit regulation across the continent will continue fervently.

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