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| **INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS**  **COMMITTEE FOR AUDITOR ETHICS** |

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| **IESBA Consults on Professional Scepticism**  Johannesburg / 29 May 2018  The International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) seeks public comment by 15 August 2018 on its consultation paper, [*Professional Skepticism - Meeting Public Expectations*](https://www.irba.co.za/guidance-to-ras/technical-guidance-for-auditors/exposure-drafts-and-comment-letters).  In response to regulatory and other stakeholder feedback on the topic, the paper explores:   * The behavioural characteristics comprised in professional scepticism; * Whether all professional accountants should apply these behavioural characteristics; and * Whether the [*International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)*](http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/final-pronouncement-restructured-code) should be further developed to address behaviours associated with the exercise of appropriate professional scepticism.   Through this initiative, the IESBA also aims to reinforce the effective exercise of professional scepticism by auditors.  **Request for Comment**  We invite registered auditors and others to submit any comments regarding the consultation paper to the IRBA for consideration as we prepare our response to the IESBA. Comments should be addressed to [standards@irba.co.za](mailto:standards@irba.co.za) in Word and PDF formats by 1 August 2018.  Alternatively, comments may be submitted directly to the IESBA through the [www.ifac.org](http://www.ifac.org/news-events/2018-05/global-ethics-board-consults-professional-skepticism) website, which has a 'Submit a Comment' link on the Exposure Drafts and Consultation Papers page. Comments to the IESBA close on 15 August 2018.  **Imran Vanker**  **Director: Standards**  ***About the IRBA***  *The objectives of the IRBA are to endeavour to protect the financial interests of the South African public and international investors in South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of audits conducted by registered auditors, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes.*  *The statutory responsibilities of the CFAE are to assist the IRBA to determine what constitutes improper conduct by registered auditors by developing rules and guidelines for professional ethics, including a code of professional conduct; to interact on any matter relating to its functions and powers with professional bodies and any other body or organ of state with an interest in the auditing profession; and to provide advice to registered auditors on matters of professional ethics and conduct.* |
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