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| **INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS**  **COMMITTEE FOR AUDITING STANDARDS** |

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| **Discussion Paper**  ***Exploring the Demand for Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagements and Other Services,***  ***and the Implications for the IAASB's International Standards***  Johannesburg / 05 December 2016  The International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) Working Group released the Discussion Paper, *Exploring the Demand for Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagements and Other Services, and the Implications for the IAASB's International Standards* (the Discussion Paper), for exposure in November 2016.  The Discussion Paper sets out the key features of an AUP engagement and explores how AUP engagements are undertaken, including the extent to which practitioners find existing requirements and guidance helpful or challenging. In addition, the IAASB is seeking an understanding of how reports on factual findings are used to determine the needs of users of these reports.  The Discussion Paper also explores the demand for engagements that combine reasonable assurance, limited assurance and non-assurance engagements, and whether the IAASB's existing International Standards are appropriate.  **How to Comment**  The IAASB's AUP Working Group has requested that comments be submitted by **29** **March** **2017**. To ensure that all relevant stakeholders are consulted, and to streamline the consultation process, interested and affected stakeholders are invited to submit written comments to the IRBA by **15 March 2017** for consideration. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Comments should be submitted by email to [standards@irba.co.za](mailto:standards@irba.co.za), in both PDF and Word formats.  Respondents who wish to submit their comments directly to the IAASB's AUP Working Group are asked to submit them electronically through the IAASB website using the *'*[*Submit a Comment*](http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/discussion-paper-exploring-demand-agreed-upon-procedures-engagements-and)*'* link. Please submit comments in both PDF and Word formats.  The Discussion Paper is available in PDF format and may be downloaded from the [IRBA website](http://www.irba.co.za/guidance-to-ras/technical-guidance-for-auditors/exposure-drafts-and-comment-letters) and the [IAASB website](http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/discussion-paper-exploring-demand-agreed-upon-procedures-engagements-and).  Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Standards Department by emailing [standards@irba.co.za](mailto:standards@irba.co.za).  **Imran Vanker**  **Director: Standards**  ***About the IRBA***  *The objective of the IRBA is to endeavour to protect the financial interests of the South African public and international investors in South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of audits conducted by registered auditors, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes.*  *The statutory responsibilities of the CFAS are to assist the IRBA to develop, maintain, adopt, issue or prescribe auditing pronouncements; to consider relevant international changes by monitoring developments by other auditing standard-setting bodies and sharing information where requested; and to promote and ensure the relevance of auditing pronouncements.* |