INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS

IAASB Publishes Non-Authoritative Guidance on Applying ISAE 3000 (Revised) to Extended External Reporting (EER) Assurance Engagements

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The International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) published its *Non-Authoritative Guidance on Applying ISAE 3000 (Revised) to Extended External Reporting (EER) Assurance Engagements* (the IAASB's non-authoritative guidance on EER) on 6 April 2021.

EER encapsulates many different forms of reporting that include, but are not limited to, sustainability or environmental, social and governance reporting; integrated reporting; reporting on corporate social responsibility; greenhouse gas statements; and service performance reporting in the public sector. These kinds of extended reporting are growing in frequency and importance, and they address matters that are becoming increasingly critical to decision-making by investors and other users.

The IAASB's non-authoritative guidance on EER responds to 10 key stakeholder-identified challenges commonly encountered in applying International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised), *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information.* The guidance then promotes a consistent high-quality application of ISAE 3000 (Revised) in extended external reporting assurance engagements to:

- Strengthen the influence of such engagements on the quality of extended external reporting;
- Enhance trust in the resulting assurance reports; and
- Increase the credibility of extended external reports, so that they can be trusted and relied upon by their intended users.

Further, the IAASB's non-authoritative guidance on EER addresses a number of overarching matters, including applying appropriate competence and capabilities; exercising professional scepticism and professional judgement; the preconditions for an assurance engagement; and more specific technical matters. The guidance also provides further explanation and examples to better understand the distinction between limited assurance and reasonable assurance engagements.

The IAASB's non-authoritative guidance on EER and the additional support material may be downloaded from the <u>IAASB website</u>.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Standards Department.

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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.