
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS
COMMITTEE FOR AUDITING STANDARDS

The IRBA issues the South African Practice Statement (SAAPS) 4 (Revised 2019), Letters of Specific Inquiry to the Entity's External Legal Practitioner Regarding Litigation and Claims Involving the Entity

Johannesburg / 29 August 2019

The Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' (IRBA) Committee for Auditing Standards (CFAS), at its meeting on 21 August 2019, approved the issuing of South African Auditing Practice Statement (SAAPS) 4, *Letters of Specific Inquiry to the Entity's External Legal Practitioner Regarding Litigation and Claims Involving the Entity*, for use by registered auditors.

SAAPS 4 (Revised 2019) is aimed at providing practical guidance to a registered auditor who is required to seek direct communication with the entity's external legal practitioner, in line with paragraph 10 of the International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 501, *Audit Evidence - Specific Considerations for Selected Items* (ISA 501).

The revised SAAPS has been updated for the following:

- Name change;
- Amendments to the Illustrative Letter of Specific Inquiry to the Entity's External Legal Practitioner regarding Litigation and Claims Involving the Entity;
- Amendments to the illustrative letter to align it with ISA 501; and
- Amendments to reflect terminology that is understood in South Africa.

Effective Date

SAAPS 4 (Revised 2019) is effective for letters of specific inquiry requested on or after 1 September 2019.

SAAPS 4 (Revised 2019) is available for downloading in both PDF and Word formats on the IRBA website (www.irba.co.za). Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Standards Department by email at 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.