
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS

IRBA Prescribes the Rule on Enhanced Auditor Reporting for the Audit of Financial Statements of Public Interest Entities

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The Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) has prescribed an [IRBA Rule on Enhanced Auditor Reporting for the Audit of Financial Statements of Public Interest Entities \(EAR Rule\)](#). This EAR Rule is effective for audits of financial statements of public interest entities for periods ending on or after 15 December 2024. Early adoption is permitted.

The prescription of the EAR Rule is in light of the IRBA's objective "to endeavour to protect the financial interests of South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of assurance conducted by registered assurance providers, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes". Consequently, its application is expected to provide additional transparency about the audit process, as well as promote and enhance audit quality. That should then help strengthen the reputation of the auditing profession and assist in restoring confidence in it.

The EAR Rule is prescribed pursuant to Section 10 of the Auditing Profession Act No. 26 of 2005, as amended, by notice via Government Gazette No. 49309 on 15 September 2023 (Board Notice 475 of 2023). The proposed EAR Rule was previously issued on exposure for public comment via Government Gazette No. 47061 on 22 July 2022 (Board Notice 309 of 2022).

The EAR Rule may be downloaded from the [IRBA website](#). Should you have any queries, please email standards@irba.co.za.

Implementation support

The IRBA will also publish shortly, the following:

1. Staff Audit Practice Alert 9, *Guidance on the IRBA Rule on Enhanced Auditor Reporting for the Audit of Financial Statements of Public Interest Entities*; and
2. Exposure Draft: *Proposed SAAPS 3 (Revised), Illustrative Reports*.

These will be available on the IRBA Website.

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.

