## INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS

### **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

# Audit Quality Indicators Survey Report shows commitment to transparency and continuous improvements

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The 2023 Audit Quality Indicators (AQIs) Survey Report reflects on a year that has shown some progress in the auditing profession in South Africa. The report indicates that, in relation to the relevant quality indicators, firms have stayed on course in their commitment to transparency and continuous improvement.

The AQI report is a critical tool for understanding and enhancing audit quality. It offers quantitative and qualitative measures of the factors that contribute to the quality of an audit, providing valuable insights for audit firms, those who appoint them and other stakeholders.

AQIs serve as a valuable resource for stakeholders within the financial reporting ecosystem. They offer a chance to employ tangible and measurable data for meaningful conversations on what influences audit quality.

In the report, we present an analysis of over a dozen AQIs, including firm tenure, the proportion of non-audit fees relative to the total audit fees and training hours. In the period under review, we have observed encouraging trends in these areas, indicative of the sector's commitment to quality and excellence. Notably, this commitment to quality has been evident through the implementation of new features in firms' internal monitoring systems, along with the recent introduction of the International Standard on Quality Management 1, Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements.

As we look ahead, we are confident that the insights from this report will guide our efforts to further enhance audit quality. We are committed to working with all stakeholders, including audit firms, those who appoint them and other interested parties, to drive continuous improvement in the auditing profession.

The AQI report can be downloaded from our website.

#### Imre Nagy

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

#### 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.