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**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS  
COMMITTEE FOR AUDITOR ETHICS**

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**Revisions to Part 4B of the IRBA Code to Reflect Terms and Concepts Used in  
International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised)**

Johannesburg / 9 November 2020

The Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) draws the attention of all registered auditors to revisions to Part 4B of the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised November 2018) (IRBA Code). These revisions reflect the terms and concepts used in International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised).

The IRBA adopted the amendments made to the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' (IESBA) Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code), issued during 2020, following the issue of proposed amendments on exposure for public comment via Government Gazette No. 42464 in South Africa on 17 May 2019 (Board Notice 76 of 2019).

The main revisions include:

- Changes in key terminology, including a revised definition of the term 'assurance client';
- Amendments to certain independence requirements in light of the revised assurance client definition;
- Greater clarity as to the parties to an assurance engagement, their roles and responsibilities, and the related independence requirements that apply; and
- A clearer distinction between the types of assurance engagement covered in Parts 4A (addressing independence for audit and review engagements) and 4B of the Code.

A Board Notice to be included in the Government Gazette will advise on the publication of the amendments to the IRBA Code, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10(1)(a) of the Auditing Profession Act, 2005 (Act No. 26 of 2005).

**Effective Date**

Part 4B relating to independence for assurance engagements with respect to underlying subject matter covering periods will be effective for periods beginning on or after 15 June 2021; otherwise, it will be effective as of 15 June 2021. Early adoption will be permitted.

The amendments to the IRBA Code may be downloaded from the [IRBA website](#).

Should you have any further queries, please email [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 Committee for Auditor Ethics are to assist the IRBA to determine what constitutes improper conduct by registered auditors by developing rules and guidelines for professional ethics, including a code of professional conduct; to interact on any matter relating to its functions and powers with professional bodies and any other body or organ of state with an interest in the auditing profession; and to provide advice to registered auditors on matters of professional ethics and conduct*