

2022-2026

Cover memo

Project: AASB Agenda Consultation Meeting AASB May 2022 (M187)

Topic: Cover memo Agenda Item: 3.1

Date: 2 May 2022

Contact(s): Eric Lee elee@aasb.gov.au Project Priority: High

Siobhan Hammond Decision-Making: None

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Background and objective

- The objective of this meeting is to provide the Board with a summary of feedback received on ITC 46 AASB Agenda Consultation 2022–2026. The Board will not be asked to make decisions during this meeting
- 2 In September 2021, the AASB issued ITC 46 for comment by 18 February 2022.
- The purpose of the agenda consultation is to seek views from Australian constituents on the projects the AASB should be addressing that are primarily domestic in nature. The domestic work program of the AASB addresses financial reporting issues in relation to:
 - (a) public sector entities;
 - (b) not-for-profit (NFP) entities; and
 - (c) Australian-specific issues relating to for-profit entities.
- 4 Feedback received will be considered for developing the Board's 2022-2026 activities that are consistent with the AASB's strategic directions and prioritising resources to accomplish those activities.

Attachments

- 5 Papers for this agenda item are:
 - (a) Agenda Paper 3.2: Summary of feedback received provides a summary of feedback received from submissions and all forms of outreach activities including panel meetings, informal meetings and the February 2022 AASB Agenda Consultation Roundtable;
 - (b) Agenda Paper 3.3: AASB Agenda Consultation Roundtable feedback received;
 - (c) Agenda Paper 3.4: ITC 46 submissions and summary; and
 - (d) **Agenda Paper 3.5**: ITC 46 AASB Agenda Consultation 2022–2026 [supporting material].

Consultation

- The Board received feedback on ITC 46 from comment letters and various outreach activities. Staff conducted extensive outreach and sought feedback from more than 120 stakeholders from all sectors and industries across all states and territories, including:
 - (a) AASB User Advisory Committee;
 - (b) CPA Australia, including members of its ESG Centre for Excellence and Not-For-Profit (NFP) Committee of Western Australia and Northern Territory;
 - (c) Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ), including members of its NFP Committee roundtable;
 - (d) Group of 100 representatives, including its sustainability committee;
 - (e) 41 academics, including the AASB Academic Advisory Panel members;
 - (f) two accountants from a government business enterprise;
 - (g) six individuals from the public sector;
 - (h) 19 accountants from 11 listed entities;
 - (i) four individuals from industry bodies;
 - (j) four members of the valuation profession;
 - (k) members of three leading sustainability reporting standard-setters and framework providers; and
 - (I) other regulators and policy-making bodies.
- Due to the pandemic, outreach activities were conducted online. Further, staff conducted a two-hour live AASB virtual roundtable on 17 February 2022 to gather feedback on the agenda consultation. A total of 17 individuals from for-profit and NFP sectors participated.
- The Board received 16 comment letters on ITC 46 from for-profit and NFP sectors (see supplementary folder for Agenda Paper 3.5: ITC 46 submissions and summary):
 - (a) Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC);
 - (b) Australian Banking Association (ABA);
 - (c) Local Government Finance Professionals of Queensland (LGFP);
 - (d) PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC);
 - (e) Deloitte;
 - (f) Australian Council for International Development (ACFID);
 - (g) KPMG;
 - (h) academics from Monash University;
 - (i) Heads of Treasuries Accounting and Reporting Advisory Committee (HoTARAC);
 - (j) Institute of Public Accountants (IPA);
 - (k) CAANZ;
 - (I) academics from the University of Melbourne (UoM);
 - (m) Australasian Council of Auditors General (ACAG);
 - (n) Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS);
 - (o) Australian Business Reporting Leaders Forum and Deakin University Integrated Reporting Centre; and

- (p) CPA Australia.
- 9 Feedback received from comment letters is consistent with feedback received from other outreach activities. In general, respondents provided a wide range of feedback to the Board about the scope and direction of the potential projects suggested in the ITC 46.
- As a result of rapid international developments in sustainability reporting, while many stakeholders provided comment on ITC 48 Extended External Reporting, many stakeholders also provided feedback on ITC 46. To keep pace with the expected ongoing international developments in sustainability reporting, staff presented feedback summaries for both ITCs at the February 2022 meeting. As such, Agenda Paper 3.2 only provides a limited feedback summary about sustainability reporting.
- 11 It is important to note that respondents did not always comment on all questions in the ITC. In particular, some topics may be more relevant to a sector than another sector. For example, NFP sector stakeholders commented on the service performance reporting project, while forprofit sector stakeholders did not comment on the topic.

Next steps

The final output of the agenda consultation will be publishing a feedback statement that summarises feedback received and the Board's decision. Staff anticipate the following timetable:

June 2022 Consider proposed response to feedback received and determine

the strategic direction and balance of the AASB's activities, including

resourcing

August 2022 Consider the draft feedback statement

September 2022 Finalise the feedback statement

See February 2022 (M185) Agenda Papers 3.4 Feedback summary—ITC 46 AASB Agenda Consultation 2022-2026 and 3.5 Feedback summary—ITC 48 Extended External Reporting.