Australian Government
Auditing and Assurance Standards Board

Minutes

14 October 2025 Meeting

Subject:	Minutes of the 166th Meeting of the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AUASB)
Venue:	AUASB Offices, Melbourne & via Zoom
Date:	Tuesday, 14 October 2025, 9:00 am – 3:53 pm

Attendance

AUASB Members	Doug Niven (Chair) Julie Crisp (Deputy Chair) Graeme Pinfold (NZAuASB Chair) Merilyn Gwan Prof Noel Harding Joanne Lonergan	Terence Jeyaretnam Andrew Porter Jason Thorne Jennifer Travers Chi Mun Woo
Office of the AUASB staff	Anne Waters Rene Herman Marina Michaelides Johanna Foyster Jeff Muir	Tim Austin Arti Naidu See Wen Ewe Dr Sheryl Huang
Guests	Brenton Newlands	
Apologies	Klynton Hankin	

Minutes

(Agenda Item 1 – Minute 1798) Welcome and Chair Update

The AUASB Chair welcomed members to the 166th meeting of the AUASB.

The AUASB chair welcomed the new NZAuASB Chair, Mr Graeme Pinfold, to his first meeting as an AUASB member. The terms of Messrs Andrew Porter, Chi Mun Woo, Jason Thorne and Terence Jeyaretnam have been extended to 30 June 2026.

Treasury will meet with the Board when draft legislation on the FRC/AASB/AUASB merger is issued for public consultation. Members were also informed of the agendas for upcoming meetings of the IAASB/IESBA SAC, IAASB JSS and IESBA JSS, and an IAASB Technology Roundtable in Sydney.

Given the late distribution of the second batch of papers for this AUASB meeting, it was not appropriate to seek votes at the meeting on the matters covered in those papers (ED on possible amendments to ASSA 5000, and proposed AUASB 2025-9 and AUASB 2025-8.

Minutes for AUASB meeting 166 were approved.

There were no changes to the declarations of interests.

The NZAuASB Chair provided an update on matters covered at the NZAuASB meeting on 8 October 2025. These matters included PIE Track 2, going concern, changes to the interim review standard, and discussion on service performance information.

(Agenda Item 2 – Minute 1799) Environmental scan

The AUASB members were provided an environmental scan on key Australian and international developments relevant to sustainability, auditing and assurance. Members particularly discussed local developments following the recent ASIC FAQ on the ability to appoint separate auditors for the financial report and sustainability report under the Corporations Act (other than for RSEs).

(Agenda Item 3 – Minute 1800) Exposure Draft – Amendments ASSA 5010 on Sustainability Assurance Phasing

The main changes suggested by AUASB members on the proposed ED 02/25 were:

- Making it clearer in the Explanatory Memorandum that ED 02/25 deals with two separate and distinct matters;

- For assurance over the directors' declaration in the sustainability report from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2027 – adding an additional consultation question, adding an additional reason for requiring assurance, and adding the directors' declaration to the assurance phasing diagram in the Appendix to ASSA 5010.
- For assurance with voluntary reporting under the Corporations Act (Bill before Parliament) - Addressing situations where an entity discontinues reporting under the Act, and making it clearer that the legislation would only apply for full compliance with reporting requirements of the Act, not other voluntary reporting.

It was agreed that a revised ED 02/25 be sent to members for approval out-of-session. The comment period will be 30-days.

(Agenda Item 4 – Minute 1801) Exposure Draft - ASSA 5000 Corporations Act specific Illustrative Assurance Reports

A revised draft of the exposure draft will be prepared for a special virtual board meeting at the end of October 2025 and further consideration by the Board. The main changes discussed for the revised draft included:

- Removing the proposed Illustrative Report 2;
- The other illustrative reports to include conclusions/opinions that combine the Corporations Act wording and additional wording from ASSA 5000. The alternative of using Corporations Act wording with additional paragraphs on the matters in ASSA 5000 190 will be presented in the Explanatory Memorandum to the exposure draft; and
- Illustrative wording for an inherent limitations paragraph will be included.

(Agenda Item 5 – Minute 1802) Amendments to ASSA 5000 re separate auditors for financial and sustainability reports

In response to feedback from auditors and following the 11 August 2025 AUASB meeting, the AUASB was presented with a draft exposure draft covering possible amendments on acceptance and continuance, and communication between auditors on other information. The proposed changes were to assist auditors where there are separate auditors for the financial and sustainability reports. It was decided not to proceed with an exposure draft as these proposed changes did not meet the compelling reasons test.

A draft FAQ on communication between auditors on other information has already been subject to consultation. Members had no suggested changes to AUASB FAQ 1 which provides some considerations on having one or two auditors for the financial and sustainability reports.

(Agenda Item 6 – Minute 1803) Guidance Statements update (verbal update)

The AUASB was provided a high-level update on the work on revised versions of the following Guidance Statements:

- GS 011 *Third Party Access to Audit Working Papers*;
- GS 007 *Audit Implications of the Use of Service Organisations for Investment Management Services*; and
- GS 002 *Audit Implications of Prudential Reporting Requirements for Registered Superannuation Entities*.

The withdrawal of GS 021 *Engagements under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme, Carbon Pricing Mechanism and Related Schemes* has been subject to consultation and a short paper will be prepared for the 12 November 2025 AUASB meeting.

(Agenda Item 7 – Minute 1804) Revised ASA 240 *The Auditor's Responsibilities Relating to Fraud in an Audit of a Financial Report*

The AUASB unanimously approved the final versions of ASA 240 and AUASB 2025-6 *Amendments to Australian Auditing Standards*, along with the accompanying Explanatory Statements.

In particular, the AUASB decided:

- To amend ASA 101 *Preamble to AUASB Standards* to address any possible questions as to whether using 'enquiries' is consistent with 'inquiries' in IAASB standards;
- Not to include the description of the legal form of the AUASB in AUASB pronouncements going forward; and

- That ASA 240 and other auditing standards effective from 15 December 2026 won't refer to early adoption. The Basis for Conclusions to ASA 240 will provide further explanation. This is consistent with the IAASB's approach.

(Agenda Item 8 – Minute 1805) AUASB 2025-9 *Amendments to AUASB Standards* and AUASB 2025-8 *Amendments to ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity and ASA 101 Preamble to AUASB Standards*

The drafts of amending standards AUASB 2025-9 and AUASB 2025-8 will be considered for approval at the AUASB meeting on 12 November 2025.

Other matters

An updated work plan will be included with the papers for the 12 November 2025 meeting.

Close of the Meeting

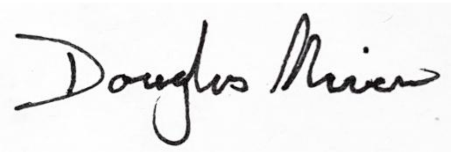
The Chair closed the meeting at 3:53 pm.

Next Meeting

The AUASB will hold its next meeting virtually in late October 2025.

Approval

Signed as a true and correct record.



Douglas Niven
Chair

Date: 24 October 2025