

# MEDIA RELEASE



International Organization of Securities Commissions  
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المنظمة الدولية لهيئات الأوراق المالية

IOSCO/MR/11/2018

Madrid 24 April 2018

## **IOSCO seeks feedback on good practices to assist audit committees in supporting audit quality**

The Board of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) is requesting feedback on its proposed good practices for audit committees to support audit quality.

IOSCO published today its [Consultation Report on Good Practices for Audit Committees in Supporting Audit Quality](#), which is intended to assist audit committees of issuers of listed securities in promoting and supporting audit quality. Findings of reviews by audit regulators indicate a need to improve audit quality and consistency of audit execution.

While the auditor is primarily responsible for achieving this objective, IOSCO believes that effective audit committees also can contribute to supporting audit quality and increasing market confidence in the quality of information in financial reports. IOSCO considers the accuracy, integrity, and comparability of issuer disclosure to be essential for maintaining investor and market confidence.

Today's consultation report proposes good practices regarding the features that an audit committee should have to be more effective in its role, including delineating the qualifications and experience that audit committee members should possess. The report also proposes good practices that audit committees may consider when:

- recommending the appointment of an auditor to members/shareholders;
- assessing potential and continuing auditors;
- assessing the audit fees;
- facilitating the audit process;
- communicating with the auditor;

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- assessing auditor independence; and
- assessing audit quality.

The report seeks feedback on the proposed good practices and the role of audit committees and audit quality.

**Comments should be submitted on or before 24 July 2018.**

## NOTES TO THE EDITORS

1. IOSCO is the leading international policy forum for securities regulators and is recognized as the global standard setter for securities regulation. The organization's membership regulates more than 95% of the world's securities markets in more than 115 jurisdictions and it continues to expand.
2. The IOSCO Board is the governing and standard-setting body of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), and is made up of 34 securities regulators. Mr. Ashley Alder, the Chief Executive Officer of the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) of Hong Kong, is the Chair of the IOSCO Board. The members of the IOSCO Board are the securities regulatory authorities of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Ontario, Pakistan, Panama, Quebec, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
3. The Growth and Emerging Markets (GEM) Committee is the largest committee within IOSCO, representing close to 80 per cent of the IOSCO membership, including 11 of the G20 members. Mr. Ranjit Ajit Singh, Chairman of the Securities Commission Malaysia and Vice Chair of the IOSCO Board, is the Chair of the GEM Committee. The Committee brings members from growth and emerging markets together and communicates members' views and facilitates their contribution across IOSCO and at other global regulatory discussions. The GEM Committee's strategic priorities are focused, among others, on risks and vulnerabilities assessments, policy and development work affecting emerging markets, and regulatory capacity building.
4. IOSCO aims through its permanent structures:
  - to cooperate in developing, implementing and promoting adherence to internationally recognized and consistent standards of regulation, oversight and enforcement in order to protect investors, maintain fair, efficient and transparent markets, and seek to address systemic risks;
  - to enhance investor protection and promote investor confidence in the integrity of securities markets, through strengthened information exchange and cooperation in enforcement against misconduct and in supervision of markets and market intermediaries; and

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- to exchange information at both global and regional levels on their respective experiences in order to assist the development of markets, strengthen market infrastructure and implement appropriate regulation.

### MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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