



INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS OF GREECE

President's Office

RN 213

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Monitoring Group Consultation on International Standard Setting Process

Views of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Greece (SOEL)

Introduction

- As a matter of principle, we are in support of any process that would have a robust governance over standard setting process, in order to be independent, trusted by stakeholders, and relevant for the future.
- Although we believe that the current process is effective and has contributed significantly to the high standards of the Audit Quality, we trust that further improvements can be made to reach the objectives relating to standard setting. This will minimize the perceptive concern of the public, relating to possible shortfalls in the current standard-setting model.
- Since we understand that the current model of the standard-setting process in some cases might be too elaborate, actions could be taken for the improvement of efficiency and effectiveness of the relative Board(s).

Single Board for Audit, Assurance and Ethics

SOEL believes that the creation of a single Board may dilute the accumulated know-how and expertise available under the current model.

This may slow down the whole standard-setting process and create further challenges in mitigating the issues raised by the profession and the regulators, requiring immediate attention.

Remuneration of Board Members / Funding

We recognize the current lack of Board Members' remuneration as a way to safeguard their independence. However, the time required for Board Members to carry out their duties is increasing due to regulatory and market demands. In this environment, total reliance by the Board Members on their remuneration from other professional activities, may also be perceived to compromise their independence as standard setters.

Member of IFAC, ACCOUNTANCY EUROPE, FCM



We consider appropriate that Board Members are remunerated fairly for their involvement in this process. This additional cost could be absorbed by a revised funding model, which is inclusive of all major stakeholders. This would also reduce any concerns relating to the standard-setters' independence.

Composition of Nominating Committee (NC)

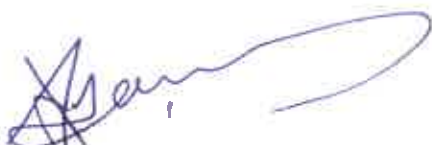
SOEL supports the proposal to increase the independence of the nominating procedure by firstly, having a Nominating Committee chair that is independent in relation to IFAC Nominating Group and PIOB, and secondly, the Nominating Committee itself should be comprised of equal number of members from IFAC and other stakeholders.

PIOB

With regard to PIOB role, we support the suggestion that the oversight body should not intervene through technical input into the development of standards. Furthermore, the selection criteria for PIOB Members should be reviewed considering multistakeholder composition and clear skill requirements, including broad geographical diversity.

Number of Board Members

The standard-setting Boards' current size of eighteen (18) could be reviewed if it would prove to make the process more effective, less time-consuming and possibly would not incur any additional costs.



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