



Board Meeting Summary Paper

Subject: Standard for Assurance Engagements on
General Purpose Water Accounting
Reports

Date: 5 April 2011

AUASB
AGENDA
ITEM NO.

11

**Meeting Date:
18-19 April**

2011

x Action Required

For Information Purposes Only

Agenda Item Objectives

To discuss with the Board the project to develop a standard for assurance engagements on general purpose water accounting reports (GPWAR), including a project update.

Background

In 2010, the AUASB and WASB agreed to work jointly on a project to develop an assurance standard for water accounting reports.

Matters to Consider

A. Key Developments

Key developments since the last AUASB meeting include:

1. Draft minutes of the first Steering Committee (SC) meeting held on 15 February 2011 were cleared by the co-chairs (copy at Agenda Item 11.1) and will be tabled at the next SC meeting.
2. The Project Advisory Group (PAG) met for the first time on 1 March 2011. Draft minutes of the meeting are provided at Agenda Item 11.2. Minutes have been cleared by the co-chairs and will be tabled at the next PAG meeting.
3. Work commenced on drafting the Consultation Paper. A list of issues to be discussed in the Consultation Paper is provided at Agenda Item 11.3.
4. Work commenced on the assurance walk-through of two sub-accounts of the National Water Account 2010 (NWA 2010). The final report on the walk-through is due in June 2011.

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The purpose of the walk-through of the NWA 2010 is twofold, including to:

- (a) determine how an assurance engagement would be conducted on the NWA, in preparation for such an engagement on the NWA 2011 (period ending 30 June 2011); and
- (b) use findings from (a), together with feedback on Consultation Paper, to inform the development the exposure draft and standard for assurance engagements on GPWAR. (*Note: It is likely that the report on the walk-through of the NWA will also impact the content of the Consultation Paper.*)

The NWA has been prepared using the principles and guidance provided in the exposure draft of the first Australian Water Accounting Standard (ED AWAS 1).

B. Financial Accounting Standards and Water Accounting Standards

1. A summary of certain similarities and differences between financial accounting and reporting and water accounting and reporting is provided at Agenda Item 11.4.

C. Matters for Discussion and Noting

1. A list of matters for discussion and noting is provided at Agenda Item 11.5.

Material Presented

Agenda Item 11	Board Meeting Summary Paper
Agenda Item 11.1	Matters for discussion
Agenda Item 11.2	Similarities and differences between financial accounting and reporting and water accounting and reporting
Agenda Item 11.3	Consultation Paper – key issues upon which comment is sought
Agenda Item 11.4	Draft minutes of the Steering Committee meeting held on 15 February 2011
Agenda Item 11.5	Draft minutes of the PAG meeting held on 1 March 2011

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