



# Board Meeting Summary Paper

**Subject:** Fundraising and Comfort Letter Projects  
**Date:** 20 May 2009

<b>AUASB AGENDA ITEM NO. 15</b>
<b>Meeting Date: 1-2 June 2009</b>

**Action Required**

**For Information Purposes Only**

## Agenda Item Objective

To update the Board on the following projects:

1. Development of an ASAE for Assurance Engagements in Connection with Fundraisings (to replace AUS 804 *The Audit of Prospective Financial Information* and AGS 1062 *Reporting in Connection with Proposed Fundraisings*), referred to as the “Fundraisings” Project;
2. Development of a Guidance Statement for Comfort Letters in Connection with Fundraisings (Australian equivalent of the US SAS 72 *Letters for Underwriters and Certain Other Requesting Parties*), known as the “Comfort Letters” Project; and
3. Revision and reissue of AGS 1014 *Privy Letter Requests*, known as the “Privy Letters” Project.

## Background

At the 6-7 April 2009 meeting, the Board approved the development and issuance of the above standard and guidance statements.

In view of this, two separate project advisory groups (PAG) have been created; one for the Fundraisings Project and another for the Comfort Letters Project. It is envisaged that these two projects, together with the Privy Letters Project, will be undertaken within the same timeframe. The aim is to complete the projects by December 2009. It was not seen as necessary to have a formal PAG for the Privy Letters Project.

At the same April meeting, the Board recommended that the PAG be consulted in determining whether the pronouncement for Comfort Letters would be a Standard or Guidance Statement. The AUASB Technical Group have had discussions with the Comfort Letters PAG Chairman and it has been decided to proceed on the basis of it being a Guidance Statement. This is because the pronouncement will only seek to provide guidance and protocols to assurance practitioners involved in comfort letter engagements and will not establish any new requirements.

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The list of project advisory group members and the proposed timetable for the above projects are attached to this Board Meeting Summary Paper.

### **Material Presented**

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| Agenda Item 15   | Board Meeting Summary Paper  |
| Agenda Item 15.1 | Project Timetables   |
| Agenda Item 15.2 | List of Project Advisory Group Members for the Fundraisings and Comfort Letters Projects |

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