



AUASB Board Meeting Summary Paper

AGENDA ITEM NO. **10(d)**
Meeting Date: 24 February 2014
Subject: Trans-Tasman
Date Prepared: 13 February 2014

Action Required

For Information Purposes Only

Agenda Item Objectives

To inform the Board of progress with Trans-Tasman harmonisation regarding:

- (a) Proposed communications protocols; and
- (b) Revision of the 2012 harmonisation policies.¹

[¹ Contained within the *Principles of Convergence to International Standards of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) and Harmonisation with the Standards of the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (NZAuASB)*]

Background

At the 28 October 2013 meeting, the AUASB considered a revised paper, developed by the NZAuASB staff, which proposed communication protocols for a communications policy between the AUASB and the NZAuASB. The NZAuASB had agreed to the proposals. The AUASB discussed the proposals and agreed to them.

The AUASB also considered proposed changes to the Principles of Convergence and Harmonisation policy paper which was signed by both boards in November 2012. The amendments comprised clarification of the “compelling reasons” criteria for making changes to an international standard. The NZAuASB had agreed to the changes. The AUASB discussed the proposed changes and agreed to them.

The AUASB requested revised Australian versions of the documents which were presented for approval at the December 2013 meeting.

- The AUASB considered the communications protocols paper and requested amendments to the flowchart contained in Appendix 1 to the protocols document. The amended diagram is now presented to the Board for approval. [See Agenda Item 10(d).1]

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- The AUASB was informed that a member of the NZAuASB wanted further clarification of the term “compelling reason”. Accordingly, the AUASB agreed to defer consideration of proposed amendments to the harmonisation paper.

The NZAuASB continues to work on clarifying the “compelling reasons” test. Accordingly, AUASB staff intend bringing the finalised NZ paper to the AUASB’s 7 April meeting.

Matters to Consider

Part A – General

1. The Board is requested to approve the communications protocols document [Agenda Item 10(d).1].

Part B – NZAuASB

1. As above

Part C – “Compelling Reasons” Assessment

1. n/a

The proposed changes conform with IAASB modification guidelines for NSS?

Y N

AUASB Technical Group Recommendations

Approve communications protocols.

Material Presented

Agenda Item 10(d) AUASB Board Meeting Summary Paper
 Agenda Item 10(d).1 Communications Protocols (marked up)

Action Required

No.	Action Item	Deliverable	Responsibility	Due Date	Status
1.	Approve the revised communications document	AUASB approval	AUASB	24 Feb 2014	o/s