



AUSTRALASIAN
COUNCIL OF
AUDITORS-GENERAL

15 May 2009

The Chairman
Auditing and Assurance Standards Board
PO Box 204
Collins Street West
Melbourne, Victoria 8007

Dear Ms Kelsall,

ED 14/09 Proposed Auditing Standard ASA 505 *External Confirmations* (Revised and Redrafted)(Re-issuance of ASA 505)

Attached is the Australasian Council of Auditors-General (ACAG) response to the Exposure Draft referred to above.

We support the main changes to the proposed standard including the new objective and definitions.

The views expressed in this submission represent those of all Australian members of ACAG.

The opportunity to comment is appreciated and I trust you will find the attached comments useful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon O'Neill', is written over a horizontal line.

Simon O'Neill
Chairman
ACAG Financial Reporting and Auditing Committee

Exposure Draft 14/09 Proposed Auditing Standard ASA 505 External Confirmations (Revised and Redrafted) (Re-issuance of ASA 505)

ACAG has reviewed the Exposure Draft and provides responses to the five questions below.

1. Have applicable laws and regulations been appropriately addressed in the proposed standard?

We are not aware of any applicable laws and regulations that have not been appropriately addressed in the proposed standard.

2. Are there any references to relevant laws or regulations that have been omitted?

We are not aware of any references to relevant laws or regulations that have been omitted.

3. Are there any laws or regulation that may, or do, prevent or impede the application of the proposed standard, or may conflict with the proposed standard?

We are not aware of any laws or regulations that may, or do, prevent or impede the application of the proposed standard, or may conflict with the proposed standard.

4. What, if any, are the additional significant costs to/benefits for auditors and the business community arising from compliance with the main changes to the requirements of the proposed Auditing Standard? If there are significant costs, do these outweigh the benefits to the users of audit services?

We have not identified any additional significant costs related to compliance with the changes to the standard for either the business community or auditors.

5. Are there any other significant public interest matters that constituents wish to raise?

There are no other significant public interest matters that we wish to raise.