



**Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on  
International Standards of Accounting and Reporting  
Thirty-fifth session  
24 to 26 October 2018  
Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

**Tentative programme**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topics and speakers</i>
<i>Wednesday, 24 October</i>	
10–10.30 a.m.	<p>Agenda item 1. Election of officers</p> <p>Opening: David Gichana, Deputy Auditor-General, Office of the Auditor General, Kenya; Chair, Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR), thirty-fourth session</p> <p>Agenda item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</p> <p>Introductory remarks: Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD</p>
10.30–10:50 a.m.	<p>Keynote address: Richard Howitt, Chief Executive Officer, International Integrated Reporting Council: "Aligning corporate reporting: A system for long-term value creation"</p>
10.50 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	<p>High-level panel: Key trends in accounting and reporting and their impact on inclusive and sustainable development</p> <p>This high-level panel will highlight recent developments and trends in financial and non-financial enterprise reporting in the private and public sectors and their implications for policymakers, investors, companies and other stakeholders in the enterprise-reporting chain. In particular, the following questions will be explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the current key trends and emerging new issues in the area of accounting and reporting in the private and public sectors?</li> <li>• How can policymakers and other stakeholders further contribute towards harnessing the positive contribution of reporting to sustainable development and financial inclusion?</li> <li>• What are some of the key developments in integrating reporting on issues relating to sustainability and environmental, social and governance in companies' reporting cycle today?</li> <li>• How can forums such as ISAR further contribute towards the promotion of high-quality financial and non-financial reporting by enterprises?</li> </ul> <p>Speakers: Michel Prada, former Chair, International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation Jean-Paul Servais, Vice-Chair, International Organization of Securities Commissions David Szafran, Attorney, Eubelius</p>
12:30–1 p.m.	Discussion
1–3 p.m.	Lunch break

3–4.45 p.m. Agenda item 3. Enhancing the comparability of sustainability reporting: Selection of core indicators for entity reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals

This high-level panel will focus on key initiatives, developments and challenges with respect to sustainability reporting, integration of environmental, social and governance reporting into companies' reporting cycle, and enhancing the role of enterprise reporting in providing data to assess the private sector's contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, the following issues will be addressed:

- Whether and how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its monitoring needs have affected requirements for sustainability reporting at the company level.
- What are the main motivations for companies to provide data on their performance and impacts on the implementation of the Goals? What are the key obstacles?
- What could motivate companies to integrate environmental, social and governance information into the reporting cycle and publish high-quality sustainability information as required by Goals 12.6. and 12.6.1? Is indicator 12.6.1 an effective measure of Goal 12.6?
- What are good practices for data collection at the national level for the assessment of the private sector's contribution to the implementation of the Goals and the main challenges involved? Should data on sustainability and the Goals be provided at the legal-entity level, given that the impacts are local? Or should it be provided solely at the consolidated level, given that investors are mainly concerned with a group performance at the consolidated level?
- How to facilitate coordination and cooperation among key stakeholders – financial reporting regulators; environmental, labour and statistical bodies, investors, professional bodies and society at large – in the area of sustainability and Sustainable Development Goal reporting? How to align the needs of all these users in this area? Could a set of core baseline indicators be a solution as a point of departure?
- What are the most pressing capacity-building needs in sustainability reporting at the company and country levels to facilitate the availability of reliable and comparable data on the private sector's contribution to the implementation of the Goals?

Introduction of agenda item 3:

Tatiana Krylova, Head, Enterprise Branch, UNCTAD

Speakers:

Louis Paul Motaze, Minister of Finance, Cameroon (to be confirmed)

Lucas Sebastian Gomez, Director, Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Policies and Technical Secretary of the Sustainable Development Goals Commission, Colombia

Carmem Bueno, Director, Department of Political and Social Relations, Office of the President of Brazil

Martin Spolc, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, European Commission (to be confirmed)

Steve Waygood, Chief Responsible Investment Officer, Aviva; Member of the High-level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance, European Union

Shameela Ebrahim, Senior Strategist, Sustainability, Johannesburg Stock Exchange; Chair of the Sustainability Working Group, World Federation of Exchanges

Michael Zimonyi, Policy and External Affairs Manager, Climate Disclosures Standards Board

Catherine Saire, Sustainability Director, Deloitte

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topics and speakers</i>
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Sonia Aparecida Consiglio Favaretto, Director, B3 (Brasil, Bolsa, Balcão), Brazil  
 Débora Ponce, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Guatemala  
 Jimmy Greer, Head of Sustainability, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants  
 Alex Cobham, Chief Executive, Tax Justice Network

4.45–5.15 p.m. Discussion

5.15–6 p.m. ISAR Honours ceremony

ISAR Honours aims to support efforts to enhance the quality of companies' reporting on their contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its usefulness in monitoring the implementation of the Goals. ISAR Honours will recognize policy, institutional or capacity-building initiatives that facilitate improvements in companies' reporting on issues relating to sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals.

6–7.30 p.m. Reception

*Thursday, 25 October*

10–12.30 p.m. Agenda item 3 (continued)

Enhancing the comparability of sustainability reporting: Selection of core indicators for entity reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals

The panel will conduct further deliberations on the draft guidance on core indicators for Sustainable Development Goal reporting by entities (guidance on core indicators). In particular, the following issues will be addressed:

- Would the proposed indicators enable enterprises to provide comparable data on their performance towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in alignment with the monitoring framework for the Goals?
- What could be the main challenges of collecting underlying accounting data required for the proposed Sustainable Development Goal indicators? Could cost and management accounting information be used for these purposes? What kind of assurance is required to facilitate the reliability of such data?
- Are the suggested Sustainable Development Goal indicators for companies useful to enable countries to collect data on the private sector's contribution to implementation of the Goals and to report on Goal 12.6, indicator 12.6.1 and other Sustainable Development Goal indicators in the area of environmental protection; waste generation; the rational use of natural resources such as energy, water and land; social issues such as gender equality and good governance; and anti-corruption practices?
- Would measures to promote the alignment of a limited number of core Sustainable Development Goal indicators for companies with the national accounts and statistic methodologies be helpful to facilitate usefulness and comparability of such reporting for different stakeholders, including national Sustainable Development Goal monitoring authorities?

*Time**Topics and speakers*

- What kind of solutions can new data companies provide to support the harmonization and comparability of Sustainable Development Goal reporting by companies and to improve monitoring and aggregation of such data at the company level, including the proposed core indicators?
- Would the guidance on core indicators be a useful tool to develop case studies to advance high-quality reporting by entities on their contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

**Speakers:**

Ariela Caglio, UNCTAD Resource Person  
 Anne Gadegaard, Associate Director, Corporate Sustainability, Novo Nordisk  
 Henrik Bang, Head of Division, Population and Education, Statistics Denmark  
 Richard V. Rothenberg, Executive Director, Global A.I. Corporation  
 Jose Luis Blasco, Global Head of Sustainability, KPMG  
 Neil Stevenson, Managing Director, Global Implementation, International Integrated Reporting Council  
 Vania Maria da Costa Borgerth, Accountant, Capital Market Department, Brazilian Development Bank  
 Bernhard Frey, Senior Manager, Sustainable Development Goal Impact and Reporting, United Nations Global Compact  
 Emily Sims, Senior Specialist, Multinational Enterprises Programme, International Labour Office  
 Danielle Chesebrough, Senior Analyst, Investor Relations with United Nations Global Compact, Policy and Research  
 Nadina Stodiek, Fund Manager Public–Private Partnership Mandates; Impact Manager, Blue Orchard  
 Gulenn També, Partner, Ernest and Young  
 Victoria Hurth, Convenor, Technical Committee 309, International Organization for Standardization  
 Tatyana Ifemenko/ Liudmyla Lovinska, Academy of Financial Management, Ukraine  
 Lowri Angharad Rees, Programme Management Officer, Sustainable Development Goals and Environmental Statistics Unit, Science Division, United Nations Environment Programme  
 Denise Kronemberger, Adviser, Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics  
 Jessica Ying Chan, Environmental Economic Accounts Section, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
 James Donovan, Chief Executive Officer, ADEC Innovations  
 Maria Mora, Chair, Best Practices Board, Extensible Business Reporting Language

12.30–13 p.m.

Discussion

1–3 p.m.

Lunch break

3–5.30 p.m.

Agenda item 4. Issues of practical implementation of international standards of accounting and reporting in the public and private sectors

The panel will review the current state of implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards. In particular, the following issues will be addressed:

- What is the current state of implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards around the world?
- Are such standards being implemented in a comparable and consistent manner?

Time	Topics and speakers
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- Are monitoring, compliance and enforcement authorities conducting their work in a consistent and comparable manner around the world?
- What are some of the key benefits that have been derived as a result of the global implementation of the standards?
- Some large jurisdictions around the world have not yet implemented International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. What are the prospects for these jurisdictions to implement the standards in the coming years?
- What are some of the main challenges that countries and enterprises are encountering in implementing International Financial Reporting Standards?
- What needs to be done at the global level to promote further implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards in additional jurisdictions, particularly by developing countries and countries with economies in transition?

Speakers:	<p>Introduction of agenda item 4: Yoseph Asmelash, UNCTAD</p> <p>Amaro Luiz de Oliveira Gomes, Board Member, International Accounting Standards Board</p> <p>Andrew Watchman, Chief Executive Officer and Technical Expert Group Chair, European Financial Reporting Advisory Group</p> <p>Alejandro Vera Espinosa, Director, Group of Latin American Accounting Standard-Setters</p> <p>Lebagang Senne, Technical Director, Pan-African Federation of Accountants</p> <p>Alan McGill, Global Sustainability Assurance Partner, Price Waterhouse Cooper</p> <p>Huaxin Xu, Head of Secretariat, Asian–Oceanian Standard-Setters Group</p>
5.30–6 p.m.	Discussion

Friday, 26 October	
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10–11 a.m.	Informal consultations (by invitation only)
11–11.30 a.m.	Consideration of outcomes of agenda item 3
11.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.	Agenda item 4 (continued). Issues of practical implementation of international standards of accounting and reporting in the public and private sectors

	<p>Over the last 20 years, many countries have opted to prepare their public sector financial statements in accordance with global standards issued by the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board. The panel discussion will focus on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the current state of implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards around the world?</li> <li>• What are the main challenges encountered during the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards?</li> <li>• Are there clearly defined and globally recognized assurance standards intended for financial reports prepared by public sector entities?</li> <li>• What needs to be done to facilitate sharing of experiences among member States with respect to the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards?</li> </ul> <p>Panellists will present case studies on the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards.</p>
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Speakers:	<p>Luzvi Chatto, Board member, International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board</p> <p>David Gichana, Deputy Auditor-General, Office of the Auditor General, Kenya</p> <p>Iain Mansfield, Head of Public Sector, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants</p>
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<i>Time</i>	<i>Topics and speakers</i>
	<p>Sandro Fuchs, Head, Centre for Public Financial Management, Zurich University of Applied Sciences</p> <p>Lourdes Castillo, Assistant Commissioner, Philippines Commission on Audit</p> <p>Barbara Pabersath, General Secretariat, International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions; Austrian Court of Audit</p>
12.30–1 p.m.	Discussion
1–3 p.m.	Lunch break
	Agenda item 5. Other business
3–3.45 p.m.	During this segment, member States that have implemented the UNCTAD–ISAR Accounting Development Tool will share their experiences.
Speakers:	Tatyana Rybak, Head, Accounting, Reporting and Audit Directorate, Ministry of Finance, Belarus
	Discussion
3.45–4.15 p.m.	Consideration of outcomes of agenda items 4 and 5
4.15–4.45 p.m.	Agenda item 6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session
4.45–5.15 p.m.	Agenda item 7. Adoption of the report and closing