Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR)

38th SESSION 9 – 12 November 2021

Friday, 12 November 2021

Agenda item 4. Climate-related financial disclosures in mainstream entity reporting: good practices and key challenges

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ISAR 38 Climate-related disclosure

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Guiding principles and challenges



WARRING The following images contain GRAPHIC CONTENT some viewers may find disturbing







Disclosures should be linked to objectives

- Big, bold goals can confuse/distract (cf. COP26) – you get what you measure
- Objectives should be relatable for the "smallest" person (buy-in)
 - Specific
 - Measurable
 - Achievable
 - Relevant (realistic)
 - Time-bound (tangible)
- Proportionality is essential



Our goals must consider unintended consequences





Perpetuating the Myth

™The *Economist* referenced CNW's study:

"The dirty little secret about hybrids is that their batteries and extensive use of aluminum parts make them costly to build in energy terms as well as financial terms. One lifecycle assessment claims that, from factory floor to scrap heap, a Prius consumes more energy even than a Hummer III."

- The Economist, In Praise of Diesel - 2/9/07

Paperless age -> electronic waste

Current energy shortage

For example, vaccines are thoroughly tested for side effects. We should do this before implementing strategies.

But we must avoid pseudo-science and social media "experts", stay scientific



Challenges abound

- Avoid not seeing the wood for the trees
 - IASB's Disclosure Initiative
- Retain focus on other areas of reporting
- Disclosures must be a means to an end, not an end in itself
- Sectoral guidance (cf. GRI)
- Mandating, assurance and monitoring (incentivisation?)
- CAPACITY BUILDING





TD/B/C.II/ISAR/97

... capacity-building and changing the way managers and employees think about sustainability [climate change].

SHUKRAN