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

**42nd SESSION
12 – 14 November 2025**

Wednesday, 12 November 2025

**Agenda item 3. Review of developments in harmonization of
sustainability reporting requirements and their practical
implementation**

Presented by

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Board Member, International Auditing and Assurance Standards
Board.(IAASB)

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IAASB Update on Developments in Sustainability Assurance

Dr. Chrystelle Richard

Professor, ESSEC Business School

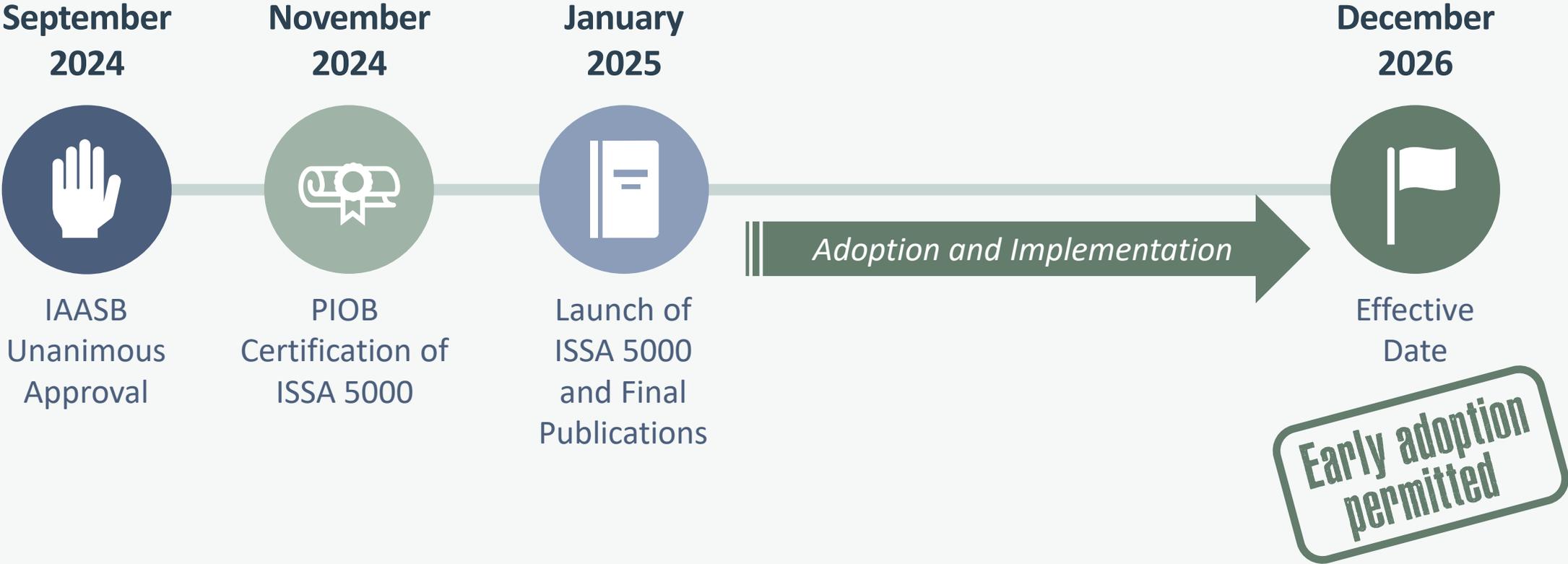
Board member, IAASB

UNCTAD Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on
International Standards of Accounting and Reporting 42nd
Session

Geneva, November 12, 2025



ISSA 5000 is the Global Baseline for Sustainability Assurance



Why Adopt ISSA 5000?

IAASB's Objective for Adoption

To encourage adoption of ISSA 5000 as the global baseline for sustainability assurance, for both mandatory and voluntary assurance engagements on sustainability information reported

Benefits of Widespread Global Adoption

- ✓ **Strong global sustainability reporting ecosystem** brings together key elements: a suitable reporting framework paired with robust assurance and ethical requirements, supported by jurisdictional regulators or professional bodies who require, monitor and enforce their application.
- ✓ High-quality, robust assurance **enhances trust and confidence** in reported sustainability information.
- ✓ ISSA 5000 establishes a global baseline for **robust and reliable sustainability assurance**, promoting consistent requirements and ensuring a level playing field for all assurance practitioners.
- ✓ Adopting a globally accepted sustainability assurance standard helps **prevent regulatory fragmentation and promotes interoperability and comparability** of assurance reports across jurisdictions.
- ✓ ISSA 5000 was designed to work in tandem with the IESBA Code of Ethics and is intended to be adopted alongside it.



Adoption Status Indicative Snapshot

REGIONAL STATUS OF ISSA 5000 OR LOCAL EQUIVALENT ADOPTION



Providing Clarity Where Needed for Consistent Implementation

IAASB's Objective for Implementation

To support effective and consistent implementation of ISSA 5000, across different jurisdictions and firms, globally

Benefits of Global Implementation Support

- ✓ Consistent implementation of ISSA 5000 across practitioners, firms and regions ensures **assurance reports are comparable and easily understood**.
- ✓ Early identification and prompt resolution of implementation issues of global relevance will drive a **common approach globally**.
- ✓ Developing ISSA 5000 resources and encouraging stakeholders to **leverage those resources for stakeholder engagement, capacity building, and education** at the jurisdictional level.



Resources Published to Support ISSA 5000



Supporting stakeholders in adopting and implementing ISSA 5000



High Level Resources:

- Joint IAASB-IESBA Fact Sheet on ISSA 5000 and IESSA
- Fact Sheet on ISSA 5000
- Frequently Asked Questions and FAQ videos

Technical Publications:

- ISSA 5000 Implementation Guide
- Basis for Conclusions
- FAQ: Joint IAASB-IESBA ISSA 5000 & the Code – June 2025
- FAQ: Applicability of ISSA 5000, ISAE 3000 (Revised) & ISAE 3410 – August 2025
- Extracts from ISSA 5000 for limited assurance material, and separately reasonable assurance material – August 2025

Technical Webinars:

- 3-part series livestreamed in two time zones
- Recordings and presentation slides available online

WATCH THE WEBINAR RECORDINGS



Foundational Principles and Concepts (first airing)



Foundational Principles and Concepts (second airing)



What We are Hearing is Informing Support Materials

STRONG SUPPORT FOR ISSA 5000 PROVIDING SUFFICIENT SPECIFICITY

Clarification called for on:



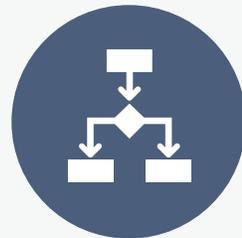
Relevant Ethical Requirements

- IESBA Code applicability
- “At least as demanding” determination



Materiality

- Narrow scope engagements
- Aggregating findings

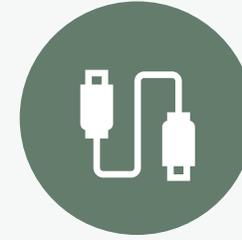


Differences between Limited Assurance and Reasonable Assurance



Evidence

- From value chain components
- Estimates, forward-looking information



Connectivity with financial statements

- Communication
- Use of work



Key Differences Between ISSA 5000 and ISAE 3000 (Revised)



Assurance Report Content

- Use of EoM, OM or inherent limitations
- Disclaimers
- Fair presentation vs compliance

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