

Agenda.



Meeting: Standards Board

Location: Virtual

Date: 8 September 2026: 09.15 – 09.30 (pre-meeting) (BST)
09.30 – 12.20 (meeting) (BST)

1. MINUTES (Items 1-3, 5 mins @ 09.30)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2026 and discuss any matters arising.

To note the Actions Log.

The papers for this item comprise the *SB Minutes 6 May 2026 (tab 1 on Diligent)* and the *Actions Log 2026 (tab 1.1 on Diligent)*.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To note any apologies for absence.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

To receive information regarding any potential conflicts of interest and/or duty which have been notified to ACCA since the distribution of the meeting papers.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4. CHAIR'S UPDATE (10 mins @ 09.35)

To report back to ACCA on the outcomes of the Board's pre-meeting discussion.

To receive an update from the Chair on developments since the last meeting.

5. WORK PLAN FOR 2025-26 COUNCIL YEAR AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (10 mins @ 09.45)

To discuss the work plan for the 2025-26 Council year and Terms of Reference.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 5 on Diligent), the Work Plan 2025-26 (**Appendix 1** – tab 5.1 on Diligent), and the ToR Table (**Appendix 2** – tab 5.2 on Diligent).*

6. ACCA’S REGULATORY BOARD (25 mins @ 09.55)

To receive, for information, a presentation on the work of the ACCA’s Regulatory Board from the Chair of the Regulatory Board.

The papers for this item comprise a presentation only (tab 6 on Diligent).

BREAK (10 MINS)

ITEMS FOR ACTION

RULEBOOK CHANGES – 15 DECEMBER 2026

7. CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT (10 mins @ 10.30)

GUIDE

IFAC copyright and permissions statement

To consider proposed changes to regulations 34 and 35 of the Code of Ethics and Conduct – Guide to reflect the publication date of the IESBA Handbook 2026 in the IFAC copyright and permissions statement.

To consider a proposal for ACCA to update the publication date of the IESBA Handbook in Code of Ethics and Conduct – Guide without obtaining formal approval from the Board.

SUPPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDANCE

Audit firm names

To consider proposed new regulations 24 to 26 in Section B4 (Descriptions of Professional Accountants and Firms and the Names of Practising Firms) of the Code of Ethics and Conduct – Supplementary Requirements and Guidance to include additional guidance on the naming of audit firms, and conforming amendments to other regulations in Section B4.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 7 on Diligent), a tracked changes version of the Code of Ethics and Conduct – Guide (**Appendix 1** – tab 7.1 on Diligent), and a tracked changes version of the Code of Ethics and Conduct – Supplementary Requirements and Guidance (**Appendix 2** – tab 7.2 on Diligent).*

RULEBOOK CHANGES – 1 JANUARY 2027

8. COUNCIL REGULATIONS (5 mins @ 10.40)

To note the Council Regulations 2027 which will be approved by Council at its meeting in November 2026. The proposed amendments include changes to the interpretation, composition of Council, consent of members, and publications (format, access and notification).

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 8 on Diligent) and a tracked changes version of the Council Regulations 2027 (**Appendix 1** – tab 8.1 on Diligent).*

9. MEMBERSHIP REGULATIONS (20 mins @ 10.45)

Eligibility for membership

To consider proposed changes to regulations 3(c)(ii), 3(e)(v) and 3(e)(vi) of the Membership Regulations to reflect ACCA's current policy for direct admission to membership and address ambiguities.

Fees and subscriptions

To consider proposed changes to regulations 2(1), 4(3), 6(3) and 10(2), and new regulations 8(7) and 14(3) of the Membership Regulations to ensure consistency of the fees and subscriptions for members, affiliates and registered students, and reflect ACCA's updated subscription terms and conditions.

Members in retirement

To consider a proposed change to regulation 4(6)(c) of the Membership Regulations to include an exemption for members in retirement from making an annual return and updating members' registered addresses and email addresses.

Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017

To consider a proposed change to regulation 8(2)(j) of the Membership Regulations to update a reference to the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017. There are also corresponding amendments in the Global Practising Regulations.

Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act 2010

To consider proposed changes to regulation 8(2)(k) of the Membership Regulations to update references to the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act 2010. There are also corresponding amendments in the Global Practising Regulations.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 9 on Diligent and a tracked changes version of the Membership Regulations (**Appendix 1** – tab 9.1 on Diligent)).*

10. GLOBAL PRACTISING REGULATIONS (15 mins @ 11.05)

Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017

To consider proposed changes to regulation 4(3) in the Global Practising Regulations and regulations 3(2), 9(3) and 11 in Annex 1 to the Global Practising Regulations to update references to the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017.

Three-month time limit for audit firm eligibility requirements breaches

To consider amendments to regulation 5(3) of Appendix 1, Annex 1 and regulation 5(2) of Appendix 1, Annex 2 to the Global Practising Regulations which clarify that where an audit firm has already ceased to meet the eligibility requirements for three months or more, the Admissions and Licensing Committee cannot issue any dispensation beyond three months. There are also changes to the Authorisation Regulations.

P11 – Insurance distribution

To consider a proposed change to regulation 7(3) in Annex 1 of the Global Practising Regulations to correct a cross-reference error.

Supervision for anti-money laundering – Republic of Ireland

To consider proposed changes to regulation 3(3) of Annex 2 to the Global Practising Regulations to require all members in the Republic of Ireland providing accountancy services within the terms of the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act 2010 (as amended) by way of business to hold a practising certificate and be supervised for anti-money laundering by ACCA.

To consider proposed changes to regulations 3(3), 8 and 9 of Annex 2 to the Global Practising Regulations to update references to the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act 2010.

Meaning of firm controlled by qualified persons

To consider proposed changes to regulation 7(4)(c) in Annex 1, Appendix 1, regulation 7(4) in Annex 2, Appendix 1 and regulation 7(4) in Annex 2, Appendix 2 of the Global Practising Regulations to correct a cross-reference error.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 10 on Diligent and a tracked changes version of the Global Practising Regulations (**Appendix 1** – tab 10.1 on Diligent)).*

11. AUTHORISATION REGULATIONS (5 mins @ 11.20)

Three-month time limit for audit firm eligibility requirements breaches

To consider an amendment to regulation 5(1)(a)(ii) of the Authorisation Regulations which clarifies that where an audit firm has already ceased to meet the eligibility requirements for three months or more, the Admissions and Licensing Committee cannot issue any dispensation beyond three months.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 11 on Diligent and a tracked changes version of the Authorisation Regulations (**Appendix 1** – tab 11.1 on Diligent)).*

12. REGULATORY BOARD AND COMMITTEE REGULATIONS (20 mins @ 11.25)

IAASA Report on Review of Governance 2026

To consider proposed amendments to regulations 2 and 3 in the Regulatory Board and Committee Regulations arising from Findings 1(b), 2(a), 2(b) and 2(c), and Other Matter 1 issued by IAASA following their review of governance in 2025.

Composition of Appointments Board

To consider a proposed change to regulation 3(3)(a) of the Regulatory Board and Committee Regulations to increase the number of additional lay members of the Appointments Board from three to four.

Qualifications of Panel members

To consider proposed new regulations 4(4)(a) and 4(4)(b) and changes to regulation 4(5)(a) of the Regulatory Board and Committee Regulations to include qualification requirements for specific members of the Panel and address indirect age discrimination.

Tenure of Panel members

To consider proposed changes to regulations 4(4)(c), 4(4)(e) and 4(5)(b), and the proposed new regulation 4(5)(d), of the Regulatory Board and Committee Regulations to align the tenure of committee members, assessors, regulatory assessors and legal advisers to ACCA's current processes.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 12 on Diligent and a tracked changes version of the Regulatory Board and Committee Regulations (**Appendix 1** – tab 12.1 on Diligent)).*

13. COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS (10 mins @ 11.45)

Right of Review of an Assessor Decision upon a Report of Disciplinary Allegations

To consider proposed changes to regulation 6(4) in the Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations to introduce a right of review by an investigating officer of an assessor decision on a report of disciplinary allegations.

The Assessment and Investigations Manager (Jocelyn Mocatta) will join the meeting for this item.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 13 on Diligent) and a tracked changes version of the Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations (**Appendix 1** – tab 13.1 on Diligent).*

RULEBOOK CHANGES – 1 JULY 2027

14. INNOVATION AND LEARNING ASSESSMENT (ILA) REDESIGN OF ACCA QUALIFICATION (15 mins @ 11.55)

ACCA Qualification

To consider further proposed changes to the Membership Regulations and the Global Practising Regulations arising from changes to the ACCA Qualification arising from the Innovation and Learning Assessment (ILA) project, including new exam structure, prescribed modules and revised practical experience requirements.

*The papers for this item comprise a cover paper (tab 14 on Diligent), a tracked changes version of the Membership Regulations (**Appendix 1** – tab 14.1 on Diligent), and a tracked changes version of the Global Practising Regulations (**Appendix 2** – tab 14.2 on Diligent).*

15. PROPOSED RULEBOOK CHANGES FOR REGULATORY BOARD APPROVAL (5 mins @ 12.10)

To consider a paper to the Regulatory Board setting out the background to the proposed changes to the ACCA Rulebook that have been agreed by the Standards Board at its meeting in September 2026.

The papers for this item comprise a cover paper only (tab 15 on Diligent).

ITEMS FOR NOTE

16. SCHEDULE OF REGULATION CHANGES FOR THE ACCA RULEBOOK (5 mins @ 12.15)

To note the schedule of proposed Rulebook changes for consideration in 2026, and the potential changes currently on hold.

The papers for this item comprise a cover paper only (tab 16 on Diligent).

17. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note that the dates of the Standards Board meetings in the 2025-26 and 2026-27 Council years are as follows:

2 November 2026
23 February 2027 (TBC)
5 May 2027
7 September 2027
1 November 2027 (TBC).