

Working Group on Technical enquiries

1 Introduction

Technical Enquiries working group has been set up to respond to technical enquires raised by members, the Council, the regulatory authorities or any other statutory body/ Government that pertains to auditing, ethical and allied matters (including queries on ISAs, ICAP Code of Ethics for Chartered Accountants, provisions of corporate laws relating to audit, ethics and allied matters, code of corporate governance and secretarial practices, and relevant provisions and directives of the Chartered Accountants Ordinance 1961).

2 Purpose of Working Group

The purpose of the working group is to assist members and to promote consistency in the application of the International Standards on Auditing, ICAPs Code of Ethics for Chartered Accountants and other relevant laws and regulations which the auditors should consider while performing an audit/review or assurance engagement.

The primary purpose of the working group is to provide timely and appropriate input on contentious or difficult matters which have been brought to the attention of the working group/ as well as the timely sharing of knowledge and emerging matters with the Board and other working groups so that necessary action is taken and matter is appropriately responded, if required.

3 Working Group Composition

Working group will consist of 6/7 Board members only, as approved by the Board. One member will act as Leader/Chair of the working group.

4 Working group Activities

- a. Inquiries received will be on a pre-prescribed template and will be received at Department of Technical Services (DTS), of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan.
- b. Inquiries which involve legal interpretations on various enactments, the matters which are pending in the Court of law or with the regulators/ Investigation Committee or other ICAP committee or judicial or any other competent authority, matters which are subjudice or the hypothetical cases will not be responded by the working group and DTS in consultation with the Chairman will decide not to proceed on these inquiries and accordingly will inform the inquirer. For the purpose of clarity, it is to make clear that an inquiry will be responded if it fulfils all conditions/ requirements as mentioned in Appendix of Board's TORs (attached);
- c. The working group shall maintain independence from the subject matter of inquiry and accordingly, it is required that all inquiries are masked appropriately so that the identity of the Entity is not disclosed. Further in case any member of the working group is not independent of the entity, he/she will not participate in preparing the response nor will be involved in discussions.

- d. DTS will prepare the first draft of the response and will be presented to the WG subject to availability of all relevant information.
- e. WG to finalize its views, based on majority voting and present its views to the Board. In case of two differing views of the WG with equal voting, both to be presented to the Board;
- f. The Board to review the WG views and conclude its response as per the scope (based on majority voting) in a board meeting or via email circulation, keeping in view the nature/urgency of the matter;
- g. WG to identify recurring technical matter/s or complex issues and suggest topics for further guidance, training, or standard-setting on the areas where guidance is readily not available in ISAs /Code to the relevant WG or to the Board;
- h. The Board may refer back the matter to the WG to revisit and revise if any element discussion is not covered in the response finalized by the WG;
- i. WG to complete its response within 7 days of the receipt of draft response from DTS; and
- j. On a periodic basis, WG will present its activities including brief of the inquiries responded, important matters noted or emerging issues identified to the Board.

Working Group will not be responsible for any opinion, in case facts presented are incorrect or incomplete. Further WG will not be construed as part of the engagement team performing audit.

Composition: This WG will only comprises of Board members

1. Atif Zamurrad Malik - Working Group Chairman
2. Hina Usmani
3. Rana Usman
4. Khurram Jameel