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IESBA Proposes Revised Ethical Requirements Prohibiting Improper Inducements

The International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants[®] (IESBA[®]) today released for public comment the Exposure Draft, *Proposed Revisions to the Code Pertaining to the Offering and Accepting of Inducements*. The proposals strengthen the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) by clarifying the appropriate boundaries for the offering and accepting of inducements, and by prohibiting any inducements with intent to improperly influence behavior.

The proposed comprehensive framework covers all forms of inducements and applies to both professional accountants in business and professional accountants in public practice. It also provides enhanced guidance on the offering and accepting of inducements by professional accountants' immediate or close family members.

"Inducements with intent to improperly influence behavior are a very major concern for the public interest, and they include the issues of bribery and corruption. Inducements made with improper intent are unacceptable and should be prohibited," said IESBA Chairman Dr. Stavros Thomadakis.

Among other matters, the proposals also require professional accountants to address any threats to compliance with the fundamental ethical principles in accordance with the Code's conceptual framework where there is no improper intent.

"The development of the proposals was informed by input from Transparency International UK based on their experience and insights in the area of bribery and corruption," noted IESBA Technical Director Ken Siong. "When completed, the provisions will constitute the last piece of the substantively revised and restructured Code."

How to Comment

The IESBA invites all stakeholders to comment on the Exposure Draft by visiting the Ethics Board's website at www.ethicsboard.org. Comments are requested by **December 8, 2017.**

About the IESBA

The IESBA is an independent standard-setting board that develops and issues, in the public interest, high-quality ethical standards and other pronouncements for professional accountants worldwide. Through its activities, the IESBA develops the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*, which establishes ethical requirements for professional accountants. The structures and processes that support the operations of the IESBA are facilitated by IFAC. Please visit www.ethicsboard.org for more information, and follow us on Twitter @Ethics_Board.

About IFAC

IFAC is the global organization for the accountancy profession dedicated to serving the public interest by strengthening the profession and contributing to the development of strong international economies. IFAC is comprised of more than 175 members and associates in more than 130 countries and jurisdictions, representing almost 3 million accountants in public practice, education, government service, industry, and commerce.

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