

IAESB CAG Meeting – February 6-7, Brussels, Belgium

To: IAESB CAG
From: Giancarlo Attolini
Chair, Small and Medium Practices (SMP) Committee

SMP Committee – 2013 Progress Report

This report summarizes the status of all SMP Committee projects in the detailed 2013 service delivery plan. The 2012 Annual Report contains detailed information on the services delivered by the SMP Committee in 2012.

Note from SMP Committee Chairman

It has been ten years since IFAC founded the SMP Permanent Task Force which became the SMP Committee in January 2006. During this time the committee, working in concert and collaboration with other IFAC groups and member bodies, has built a substantial platform of global support for small- and medium-sized practices (SMPs) and, in turn, their small- and medium-sized entity (SME) clients.

In particular, this past year has seen considerable progress made by the Committee in implementing the [Strategy and Work Plan for 2013-2016](#), a strategy that is delivering more, better with much the same resources and is characterized by a four-part vision statement: contributing to the development of international standards and guidance that are stable, and relevant, and proportional to SMEs and SMPs; facilitating the adoption and effective implementation of high-quality international standards and guidance by SMPs and SMEs; building competence and relevance of SMPs through professional accountancy organizations and promoting the value of SMPs; and speaking out on public interest issues of relevance to SMPs and SMEs.

At the September Board meeting I was happy to report that the recommendations of the SMP Review, approved by the Board in June 2010, have been, or are on track to being, substantially implemented and that we will continue to monitor their ongoing implementation in the years ahead. The SMP Review has laid the foundation for: heightened focus on and sensitivity to SMP issues across IFAC; strengthening SMP and SME participation in the development of policy, regulation, and standards; raising the voice, visibility and value-recognition of SMPs and their SME clients; and building the capacity of SMPs to provide high quality professional services.

In 2013 we have expanded our web-based resources and tools, facilitated access to additional resources for member bodies to use in support of their SMP members, ran an insightful global SMP survey in multiple languages, published a series of thought leadership and promotional articles, and provided timely and robust input to projects of particular relevance to SMPs and SMEs such as structure of the code (IESBA), auditor reporting and audit quality (IAASB), and a new IFAC Policy Position Paper on Enhancing Organizational Reporting. And by the year end we hope to have issued the *Guide to Review Engagements* offering a comprehensive toolkit to help SMPs implement ISRE 2400 (Revised), *Engagements to Review Historical Financial Statements*.

Going forward we are well placed to help SMPs and the member bodies supporting them meet the challenges ahead. With a diverse and committed roster of volunteers, a full complement of staff, an adaptable and low cost way of working using virtual task forces, and the IFAC Global Knowledge Gateway, a unique vehicle to facilitate the building and sharing of knowledge, we are equipped to identify and address the pressing issues facing SMP globally.

Once again I thank you and your organization for its support. I look forward to seeing you or your representative(s) in Rome, Italy in November next year for the WCOA 2014.