
The IIA SA's response to the challenges in the Country

Voice on state of Governance in South Africa

The IIA SA has been producing the Corporate Governance Index since 2013. The CGI has become an important barometer of governance in South African organisations. The annual survey is completed by Chief Audit Executives, a group that is in the unique position to give an independent collective view of the state of governance in our organisations. This gives organisational leaders insight into the areas where urgent attention is needed. [Click here](#) to access the latest version of the CGI report.

Ethics and the profession

- Core to any profession is its ability to hold its own accountable against a Code of Ethics. Our Code of Ethics and Disciplinary Code: Policies and Procedures are enshrined in our Bylaws. [Click here](#) to access the Bylaws.
- While the IIA SA is responsible for holding members accountable in the local context, the responsibility of holding CIAs accountable, in relation to their designation, lies with the IIA Global, as ownership of the CIA designation lies with the IIA Global.
- Annual ethics training is compulsory for all designation holders. This includes CIAs, PIAs and IATs.
- The Institute ensures that ethics is included in its offerings, both in its events as well as training offered by its Academy.
- The Institute has entered into a MoU with the Ethics Institute. Institute members may register for the Ethics Institute training programs at their member rate.

Member in Good Standing

In order for an individual to be recognised as a member in good standing, the person must meet the criteria of a fit and proper individual as defined by the Institute. This includes, in addition to having his/her membership fee paid up, having completed the Annual Declaration, confirming conformance with the Standards and adherence to the Code of Ethics.

The internal audit oath

The Oath is recited at all graduations as well as the national conference. The objective is to remind members of their obligations as internal auditors and to renew their commitment to the mandate.

[Click here](#) to access the Oath.

Ethics and the Institute

- Board members undergo ethics training annually. In 2019 this will be extended to all members serving in Institute committees.
- The Secretariat staff undergo ethics training biennially.

Governance within the structures of the Institute

- The Nominations and Governance Committee is responsible for continual review of the degree to which the Institute is adhering to good governance principles, which includes the annual Board self- evaluation process.
- In 2018 the Board approved the establishment of an independent committee to sit alongside the Board and determine the risks around individual directors, which includes the risks associated with the organisations they are employed in. This committee's responsibility is to make recommendations to the Board on how to manage situations where the risks around a particular director/s have surpassed an acceptable level.

Accountability of the Institute

The Institute does not only see itself accountable to its members, who would de facto be its shareholders, but also to a broad range of stakeholders who would be affected by its decisions and actions. In this context the Institute produces an Annual Integrated Report with the objective to report on all relevant matters, and transparently so. To access our latest Integrated Report, [click here](#).

The Institute is also held accountable by the following bodies as determined by the various agreements, legislation and regulations as applicable within context:

- The IIA Global under the Master Relationship Agreement;
- The South African Qualifications Authority with whom the Institute is registered as a professional body;
- The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations, which had delegated the responsibility of Assessment Quality Partner to the Institute; and
- The Finance and Accounting Services Sector Education and Training Authority.

Anti-intimidation and Ethical Practices Forum (AEPF)

The Institute plays the role of secretariat to the AEPF. The AEPF's objectives include:

- Providing a platform for participating professional body members to raise concerns about corruption and intimidation;

- Educating members of participating professional bodies by providing practical advice, support and guidance to individuals who are intimidated and helping them to make protected disclosures, responsibly;
- Acting collectively to lobby government or governmental bodies to improve whistle blowing legislation and policies; and
- To be a collective professional voice calling for improved governance and greater accountability within the public and private sectors of South Africa.

In 2018 six professional bodies, including the IIA SA, signed a MoU under the auspices of the AEPF with the following objectives:

- To promote and foster a culture of accountability among professionals in the governance sphere;
- To ensure a strong line of defence in society, by acting as each other's eyes and ears; Where an individual holds multiple memberships, to allow for the relevant parties to this Agreement to rely on the outcome of the investigation of the Professional Body that leads the investigation;
- To conduct joint investigations where there may be multiple implicated individuals, who hold memberships of more than one party to this Agreement and where such measures are necessary;
- To pool resources together under one of the Parties that would take the lead in an investigation, where such measures are necessary; and
- In order to ensure consistency, to allow for the Parties to coordinate and agree on whether the membership of the implicated individual/s at affected Professional Bodies should be suspended until such time that the investigation, and where necessary disciplinary hearings, have been concluded.

Partnerships

The IIA SA recognises that it cannot achieve its objectives in the South African landscape as a lone ranger and that it is important to forge partnerships where it makes sense. The following are, inter alia, current partnerships, MoUs and other types of relationships, which are intended to assist the Institute in executing its mandate:

- The IIA network
- The Anti-intimidation and Ethical Practices Forum
- The Public Sector Audit Committee Forum
- The IoD, IRMSA and SAICA in relation to our Governance Conference

- The Integrated Reporting Committee (SA)
- MoU with National Treasury
- Provincial treasuries
- MoUs with professional bodies such as the ACFE and other bodies such as the Ethics Institute
- The Institute's CEO serves on the Gauteng Ethics Advisory Council
- Representation on the King Committee