Summary of Meeting Outcomes

Public Standards Board Meeting

June 15, 2022

The following represents a staff summary of the outcomes of the public meeting of the SASB Standards Board. Meeting outcomes may include final decisions made by the Board in accordance with the SASB Rules of Procedure, preliminary Board decisions that are tentative and subject to change until they receive final Board approval, or other outcomes resulting from Board discussions or staff updates.

To support the IFRS Foundation’s establishment of the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB), the Value Reporting Foundation is consolidating into the IFRS Foundation as of June 30, 2022. At that time, the SASB Standards Board will transition all open standard-setting projects to the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB). The ISSB will build on the SASB Standards, including embedding SASB’s industry-based approach in its standards development process, continuing progress on open standard-setting projects and encouraging companies to use SASB Standards until the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards are available for use. This is the last public meeting of the SASB Standards Board.

The meeting recording, materials, and a schedule of upcoming meetings are available online at the Standards Board Meeting Calendar & Archive. The current SASB Standards are available at Download SASB Standards. Information on specific projects can be found on the Projects page.

Standard-Setting Projects

- Following the planned consolidation of the Value Reporting Foundation into the IFRS Foundation on June 30, 2022, stewardship of the SASB Standards will transition from the SASB Standards Board to the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB). In addition, the following standard setting and research projects will be passed along to the ISSB for further deliberation and will be subject to the ISSB’s due process:
  - Content Governance in the Internet Media & Services Industry (see recommended changes, published June 2, 2022) Standard-Setting Projects
- Plastics Risks & Opportunities in the Chemicals Industry (see recommended changes, published June 2, 2022)

- Alternative Products in the Food & Beverage Sector (see recommended changes, published June 2, 2022)

- Renewable Energy in the Electric Utilities & Power Generators Industry

- GHG Emissions in Marine Transportation

- Projects on the SASB Governance Documents

- Human Capital Management (likely to inform the ISSB’s consultation on agenda priorities)

- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (likely to inform the ISSB’s consultation on agenda priorities)

- Standards Internationalization Advancement (this project is part of the ISSB’s initial work plan and work is already underway)

Content Governance in Internet Media & Services Industry

- The board discussed the recommended changes to the Internet Media & Services Standard, including the addition of a new disclosure topic and five associated metrics that intend to capture risks and opportunities associated with the dissemination of user-generated content on internet platforms.

- The Board discussed several areas where further market input might improve the recommended changes, including:
  - The type of quantitative data captured by the content moderation table
  - The structure and applicability of the metric capturing total amount spent on content governance
  - Gathering subject matter expertise from a wider range of stakeholders, representing different types of preparers and functions within companies

- The recommended changes are being passed to the ISSB for further deliberation and will be subject to the ISSB’s due process.
Plastics Risks and Opportunities in Pulp & Paper Products and Chemicals Industries

- The board discussed the recommended changes to the Chemicals Standard, including the addition of a new disclosure topic and five associated metrics that intend to capture risks and opportunities associated with single-use plastics.

- The Board discussed two issues where further market input might improve the recommended changes:
  - Whether certain recommended metrics should be based on an absolute value or a percentage.
  - Whether reporting companies will be able to isolate data regarding single-used plastics in a cost-effective manner.

- The recommended changes are being passed to the ISSB for further deliberation and will be subject to the ISSB’s due process.

Alternative Products in Food & Beverage

- The board discussed the recommended changes to the Meat, Poultry & Dairy, Processed Foods, and Food Retailers & Distributors Standards, including the addition of a new disclosure topic and three corresponding metrics intended to capture risks and opportunities related to alternative protein products.

- The Board discussed two issues where further market input might improve the recommended changes:
  - Whether the addition of a plant-based protein category to the revenue metrics in all three industries would be decision-useful.
  - Whether it is feasible for companies to disclose the amount spent on protein diversification within the Meat, Poultry & Dairy and Processed Foods industries.

- The recommended changes are being recommended to the ISSB for further deliberation and will be subject to the ISSB’s due process.
Renewable Energy in Electric Utilities & Power Generators

- Staff updated the Board on its findings from stakeholder consultations and shared its initial recommendations on opportunities to further enhance the Electric Utilities & Power Generators Standard.

- The Board discussed the consultation findings and staff’s initial recommendations, providing guidance on specific areas to consider for further refinement of its recommendations and related opportunities to consult market participants.

- Staff continues to engage the market as the project transitions to the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB), while the consultation on the ISSB’s agenda priorities planned for later this year will inform a detailed delivery plan.