

REPORT OF THE SASB CHAIR 2022 Q1

Feb 28, 2022

Item I: Standards-Setting Activities

A. Meetings of the Standards Board

- On Dec 14 and 15, the Standards Board held public and closed web-based meetings. The closed meetings were attended by some members of the Value Reporting Foundation Board. No technical standards setting activity took place during the closed meetings. Recordings of the public meetings are available on the Value Reporting Foundation's website.
- At the public meeting on Dec 15, the Standards Board discussed several projects, including the following highlights:
 - Related to the Human Capital research project, the Board approved the Staff's proposal to initiate a standard-setting project to evaluate the addition or revision of disclosure topics and/or metrics within a set of SASB Industry Standards to better account for the impact of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) on enterprise value.
 - The Board also approved the Staff's proposal to initiate a standard-setting project to evaluate improvements to accounting metrics in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Air Quality disclosure topics in the Marine Transportation Standard.
 - The Staff provided an overview of the market input received during the public comment period for the Raw Materials Sourcing in Apparel project. The Board discussed next steps on enhancing guidance related to sourcing region and guidance related to company identification of credible third-party environmental and/or social certifications/standards.
 - The Board and Staff discussed how to establish technical updates and editorial corrections processes to address minor or narrow scope issues and to correct minor inaccuracies (e.g., spelling, outdated links) in the Standards. The Board supported the recommendations and discussed how the Staff's efforts and learning can inform the transition work with the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) to establish IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards.

- The Standards Board will hold its next public and closed web-based meetings on Mar 1-2, 2022.

B. Additional Agenda Updates

- With the planned consolidation of the Value Reporting Foundation into the IFRS Foundation, the SASB Standards Board is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2022. At that point, stewardship of the SASB Standards and related projects will be the responsibility of the ISSB.

Item II: Interaction with the Foundation, Advisory Groups, and Stakeholders

A. Value Reporting Foundation Board of Directors

- On Dec 8, the Chair of the Standards Board attended a web-based meeting of the Value Reporting Foundation Board of Directors.
- On Mar 3, the Chair of the Standards Board will attend a web-based meeting of the Value Reporting Foundation Board of Directors.

B. Key Stakeholder Interaction

- On Jan 24, the Chair of the Standards Board attended the final (web-based) meeting of the Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB) in advance of the CDSB's consolidation into the IFRS Foundation.

C. Standards Advisory Group

- Over the past quarter, the Staff has engaged with SAG members as a part of the consultation phase of all research and standard-setting projects. During this period there was a focus on market consultation related to the [Content Governance in the Internet Media & Services Industry](#), [Alternative Products in Food & Beverage](#), [Human Capital: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion](#) and [Raw Materials Sourcing in Apparel](#) projects.
- Members of the Research Team continue to have 1-on-1 conversations with SAG members regarding a series of topics related to challenges and opportunities related to the implementation and use of the SASB Standards, as well as potential research projects.



Item III: Additional Stakeholder Education and Communications

A. Speaking Engagements and Presentations (SASB Board and Staff)

- The Standards Board and Research Team support stakeholder education and communication by speaking at many events. Some highlights include:
 - Value Reporting Foundation Symposium (December 6-7, Verity Chegar, Jeff Hales, Marc Siegal, Susanne Stormer, and Mark Vaessen, Standards Board)
 - AIF Institute Center for ESG & Sustainable Investing Symposium (December 15, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - JCAE Symposium (January 10 – 12, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - BAFA FARSIG (January 14, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - AAA Auditing Section Midyear Meeting (January 14, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - Temple University (January 19, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - AAA International Accounting Section Midyear Meeting (January 28, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - Columbia University (February 7, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - CPA Canada: Project advisory committee on social disclosures benchmarking study (February 23, Taylor Reed, Research Team)
 - PCAOB Annual Inspections Training (February 23, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)
 - University of Kentucky (February 25, Jeff Hales, Standards Board)