

PRESS RELEASE

APPOINTED – MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT WORKING GROUPS TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE DRAFTING OF EUROPEAN SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING STANDARDS

Announcement of the composition of the eleven Expert Working Groups (EWGs) with expertise and experience on sustainability matters, to provide input for the development of draft European sustainability reporting standards.

Brussels, 5 November 2021:

The European Commission's proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive ([CSRD](#)) currently under discussion by the EU co-legislators, provides that EFRAG would develop draft European sustainability reporting standards, using proper due process, public oversight and transparency, and with the expertise of relevant stakeholders.

Commissioner McGuinness, in [a letter dated 12 May 2021](#), has requested EFRAG to put in place interim working methods to start the technical work immediately. [Technical work](#) by the Project Task Force on European sustainability reporting standards ([PTF-ESRS](#)) is well under way, organised in clusters. These clusters are currently drafting the very first version of the standards, and will have preliminary pre-exposure draft versions on different topics ready gradually, with the first one aimed for the end of November 2021.

On 25 August 2021 EFRAG launched a [call for candidates](#) for setting up Expert Working Groups (EWGs) with expertise and experience on sustainability matters, to provide input for the development of draft European sustainability reporting standards. A very large number of high quality applications for membership of the EWGs were received that were carefully considered and analysed under the supervision of the EFRAG Board President Jean Paul Gauzes. During the selection process strong emphasis was given to identifying candidates with high level of expertise and experience on the specific areas and topics listed in the call for candidates whilst respecting an optimal balance for professional background, nationality and gender.

The EWGs are expected to review, provide input and, where necessary, contribute to the work of the [PTF-ESRS](#) on the basis of the preliminary pre-exposure draft version of the standards to be submitted to them. The preliminary pre-exposure draft version will be further developed to accommodate input from the EWGs, to get to the pre-exposure draft for the next steps of the standard- setting process.

A total of eleven EWGs have been created as detailed below.

The EWGs are anticipated to start their work as soon as relevant materials are available for input for each of them.

Jean-Paul Gauzès, EFRAG Board President, welcomed the new appointments noting:

“We are strongly encouraged by the willingness to contribute to the development of draft European sustainability reporting standards. The overwhelming number of applications for the Expert Working Groups from high calibre sustainability reporting experts from Europe and even beyond demonstrates the great importance of this work for all stakeholders.”

The appointed members appearing in second name alphabetical order by expert working group are as follows:

Expert Working Group 1: Conceptual guidelines		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Andreas Gustafsson	Sweden	Financial Institutions
Cristina Ioana Mihai	Romania	Financial Institutions
Vera Palea	Italy	Academics
Katharina Schönauer	Austria	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Thorsten Sellhorn	Germany	Academics
Lene Serpa	Denmark	Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs) listed
Le Quang Tran Van	France	Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs) listed
Expert Working Group 2: Cross-cutting standards		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Charlotte Bancilhon	France	Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs) listed
Rodolphe Bocquet	France	Sustainability rating agencies and index providers
Simon Braaksma	Netherlands	Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs) listed
Yona Kamelgarn	France	Financial Institutions
Wolfgang Kuhn	Germany	Non-Governmental Organisations
Magdalena Podoska	Poland	Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs) listed
Expert Working Group 3: Environment – Climate		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Jean-Francois Coppenolle	France	Financial Institutions
Christian Didier	France	Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs) listed
Bela Galgoczi	Hungary	Trade Unions
Thomas Loew	Germany	Other
Wouter Meindertsma	Netherlands	Financial Institutions
Laura Niederdrenk	Germany	Non-Governmental Organisations
Linda Romanovska	Latvia	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Victoria Savchenko	France	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Expert Working Group 4: Environment – Other		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Robert Adamczyk	Poland	Other
Emily Healy	Ireland	Non-Governmental Organisations
Ingmar Juergens	Germany	Academics
Johan Lammerant	Belgium	Other
Lourdes Martín	Spain	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Rosa Pritchard	Ireland	Non-Governmental Organisations
Expert Working Group 5: Social – Workforce		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Carla Bonino	Spain	Non-Governmental Organisations
Stefan Clauwaert	Belgium	Trade Unions
Marie Lundgren	Sweden	Unlisted NFCs and SMEs
Nina Norjama	Finland	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Mariana Ruiz Alvarado	Spain	Financial Institutions
Alexandra van Selm	Netherlands	Other

Expert Working Group 6: Social – Other		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Ramiro Cea Moure	Spain	Academics
Sladjana Cosic	Croatia	Financial Institutions
Maria Morell Camacho	Spain	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Daniel Neale	Ireland	Non-Governmental Organisations
Hannah Roberts	Germany	Sustainability rating agencies and index providers
Paul Roeland	Netherlands	Non-Governmental Organisations
Ruben Zandvliet	Netherlands	Financial Institutions
Expert Working Group 7: Governance+ – Governance		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Alessandra Diotallevi	Italy	Financial Institutions
Vesselina Haralampieva	Bulgaria	Financial Institutions
Christiane Hölz	Germany	Other categories of financial market participants
Paul Jager	Netherlands	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Fulvio Rossi	Italy	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Expert Working Group 8: Governance+ – Other matters		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Jean-Luc Barlet	France	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Patrizia Giangualano	Italy	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Maria Ibisz	Poland	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Paolo Mazzeo	Italy	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Edson Ulisses de Melo	Spain	Financial Institutions
Eszter Vitorino	Slovakia	Other categories of financial market participants
Expert Working Group 9 : Sector-specific standards		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Lucile de La Jonquière	France	Financial Institutions
Pedro Faria	Portugal	Other
Neylin Mutlu	Bulgaria	Financial Institutions
Benjamin Perdreau	France	Trade Unions
Patricia Pina	Spain	Sustainability rating agencies and index providers
Per Törnqvist	Sweden	Financial Institutions
Maurus Unsoeld	Germany	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Beatrix Wieczorek	Germany	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Expert Working Group 10: SMEs		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Carl-Emil Akselberg	Norway	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Sofia Bildstein-Hagberg	Sweden	Listed Non-Financial Corporations (NFCs)
Daniela Carosio	Italy	Sustainability rating agencies and index providers
Cédric Lodato	Belgium	Other
Marie Fleur Meerman	Netherlands	Other
Charlotte Vandierendonck	Belgium	Unlisted NFCs and SMEs
Yvonne Zwick	Germany	Unlisted NFCs and SMEs
Expert Working Group 11 : Format		
Name	Nationality	Stakeholder category
Franco Amelio	Italy	Auditors, assurance providers and accountants
Donato Calace	Italy	Other
Javier Mora Gonzálbez	Spain	Other
Alexander Stevens	Belgium	Unlisted NFCs and SMEs
Laureen van Breen	Netherlands	Non-Governmental Organisations

Notes for editor:

1. Press release regarding the invitation to EFRAG to contribute to the elaboration of draft EU sustainability reporting standards (ESRS) is available [here](#).
2. Contact us: EFRAG, 35 Square de Meeûs, B-1000 Brussels; Tel: +32 (0)2 207 93 00; info@efrag.org
3. About EFRAG (www.efrag.org)
 - a. EFRAG's mission is to serve the European public interest by developing and promoting European views in the field of financial reporting and ensuring these views are properly considered in the IASB standard-setting process and in related international debates. EFRAG ultimately provides advice to the European Commission on whether newly issued or revised IFRS Standards meet the criteria in the IAS Regulation for endorsement for use in the EU, including whether endorsement would be conducive to the European public good.
 - b. EFRAG seeks input from all relevant stakeholders, and obtains evidence about specific European circumstances, throughout the standard-setting process and in providing our endorsement advice. Our legitimacy is built on transparency, governance, due process (which may include field tests, impact analyses and outreaches), public accountability and thought leadership. This enables EFRAG to speak convincingly, clearly and consistently, and be recognised as the European Voice in financial reporting.
 - c. EFRAG is operating in a fast-evolving environment and cares about adapting its activities and its governance to meet the opportunities and challenges in corporate reporting.
4. About the European Lab
 - a. The European Corporate Reporting Lab @EFRAG (European Lab) was established by EFRAG following the call by the European Commission in its March 2018 [Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth](#). The European Lab serves the European public interest and its objective is to stimulate innovation in the field of corporate reporting in Europe by identifying and sharing good reporting practices through:
 - facilitating dialogue between preparers, users and other relevant stakeholders; and
 - documenting the content and outcomes of this dialogue in reports and other means, and making them available in the public domain.
 - b. The European Lab has a multistakeholder Steering Group ([European Lab SG](#)) and under its direction project task forces may be established for specific projects (European Lab PTFs).

5. About the PTF-ESRS

- a. Following a request for technical advice issued by the European Commission mandating EFRAG to undertake preparatory work for the elaboration of possible EU non-financial reporting standards in a revised EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive, the European Lab Steering Group appointed a multi-stakeholder Project Task Force ([PTF-NFRS](#)) to operate the project and act in the public interest. Its report [Proposals for a relevant and dynamic EU sustainability reporting standard-setting](#) was published on 8 March 2021.
- b. A legislative proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) adopted by the European Commission on 21 April 2021, provides that EFRAG would develop draft European sustainability reporting standards, to be adopted by the European Commission as delegated acts. The timeline contained in the proposal assumes this to be done in parallel to the legislative process for the approval of the CSRD. To meet this timeline, Commissioner McGuinness, in a letter dated 12 May 2021, requested EFRAG to proceed with relevant governance reforms, and put in place interim working methods to start the technical work immediately building on the membership, leadership, expertise and recommendations of the PTF-NFRS.
- c. As a consequence, the PTF-NFRS is now called the Project Task Force on European sustainability reporting standards ([PTF-ESRS](#)), and is elaborating standards in project mode in view of passing responsibility to the EFRAG sustainability reporting bodies as soon as they have been established following the relevant governance reforms.
- d. The appointed PTF-ESRS incorporates a balanced representation of a broad range of stakeholders with a legitimate interest in non-financial information, spanning the public sector, the private sector, SMEs and civil society from across the EU, in line with the EC request for technical advice. The term of appointment of the PTF-ESRS is for the duration of the project. The PTF-ESRS benefits from the support of a secretariat generously provided by constituents and stakeholders, together with the EFRAG Secretariat.
- e. The project is operated by the PTF-ESRS within the European Lab.
- f. For more details see the relevant project page on the EFRAG website [here](#).

