

Australian Standard[™]

Good Governance Principles

 Standards Australia This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee MB-004, Business Governance. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 23 May 2003. This Standard was published on 23 June 2003.

The following are represented on Committee MB-004:

A1

ARIMA Audit Office of New South Wales Australian Compliance Institute Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Australian Council of Superannuation Investors Australian Federal Police Australian Institute of Risk Management Australian National Audit Office Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Centre for International Corporate Governance Research, Victoria University Chartered Secretaries Australia **Consumers Federation of Australia** Corporate Crime Liaison Group **CPA** Australia Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia Institute of Internal Auditors – Australia National Institute for Governance – University of Canberra Queensland University of Technology Royal Institute of Deaf & Blind Children Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals

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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 03025.

AS 8000—2003 (Incorporating Amendment No. 1)

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Good governance principles

First published as AS 8000—2003. Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (November 2004)

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Published by Standards Australia International Ltd GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 5303 5

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia International Committee MB-004 Business Governance.

This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (November 2004). The change arising from this Amendment applies to the Committee representatives list on the inside front cover of this Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide a blueprint for the development and implementation of a generic system of governance suitable for a wide range of entities.

This Standard is the 'lead' Standard in the Governance Series. When complete this series will comprise:

- AS 8000 Good governance principles (this Standard)
- AS 8001 Fraud and corruption control
- AS 8002 Organizational Codes of Conduct
- AS 8003 Corporate social responsibility
- AS 8004 Whistleblower protection programs for entities

This Standard recognizes that there are general laws in place regulating how to comply with good governance principles. The intention is not to cut across the law, but enhance the legislation. If there is any doubt as to a potential conflict between the law and this Standard, seek professional advice.

This Standard complements existing guidelines produced by IFSA and the ASX Corporate Governance Council. It is suggested that the reader refer to these guidelines where appropriate.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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