



**REPORT –BACK ICIA MEETING HELD IN NEW YORK ON
30 APRIL 2007 AT THE ANNUAL CFA INSTITUTE CONFERENCE**

Mike Brown, Chairman, IAS

The International Council of Investment Associations (ICIA), hold an annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the CFI Institute. Members of the ICIA are:

- The Asian Securities Analysts Federation (ASAF).
- The CFA Institute.
- The European Federation of Financial Analysts Society (EFFAS).
- The Investment Analysts Society of Southern Africa (IAS)

Each of these member Securities did a report back on their activities over the past year. Some highlights of the report backs were:

1. ASAF

Has 29 member Societies or associate members from the different countries in Asia, including Australia and New Zealand. ASAF focuses on providing education services to its members and to aspirant financial analysts. These include conducting courses on and supervising the exams for the Certified International Investment Analysts (CIIA) qualifications and the CFA Courses. In addition, a number of members associations of ASAF conduct financial education courses in the countries in which they are located. For instance, the Australian Securities Institute (ASI), is the largest education provider to investment professionals in Australia. It has over 12000 members and 15000 current students.

ASAF also encourages listed companies to do presentations to its members and in 2006, 800 corporate presentations were conducted in the Asian region.

It is successfully experimenting with Investor Relations Clubs for non-members of ASAF and this is proving popular, particularly in Japan and Taiwan.

A key area of the ASAF activities across Asia is to develop standards and to enforce these standards for Investment Analysts Disclosure Procedures.

2. CFA INSTITUTE

The CFA has over 90000 members, who hold the CFA qualification and has some 140000 students who are enrolled for the CFA courses.

The Institute will be celebrating its 60th anniversary on the 11th June and has asked its 120 member associations around the world to hold events in order to celebrate this occasion. The CFA Institute of South Africa will be holding an anniversary lunch in Johannesburg on the 11th June 2007, as part of these celebrations.

The CFA Institute has established a Centre for Financial Product Integrity, which has developed standards for:

- A Comprehensive Business Reporting Model.
- Pension Funds Trustees Code of Conduct.
- A Financial Market Integrity Index.
- Corporate Governance – Handbook for Investors on Executive Compensation.

As part of the work of this Centre, a survey has been undertaken amongst CFA members on ethics and ethical conduct on a worldwide basis. It is intended to develop an Ethics Training Programme.

3. EFFAS

The European Society has 24 member countries. It is undertaking a joint study with the European Central Bank on the impact and importance of the yield curve.

EFFAS has a very active committee, on which a number of its member countries serve, which is looking at International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and providing input from a financial analysts perception on a number of practical issues associated with the implementation of IFRS.

4. IAS

A copy of my report to the ICIA is attached.

5. CO-OPERATION MEASURES IN ICIA

a) Global Co-operation on Financial Analysts Advocacy

Each of the member associations of ICIA have been asked to nominate a member to serve on a Committee to develop global advocacy standards.

b) IFRS

The ICIA is considering setting up a formal Committee to develop a global standard amongst analysts for input into the practical implementation of IFRS. Notably the usage of headline earnings as a standard measure of profits, the methodologies of calculating IFRS earnings and ratios and other collective views by analysts on IFRS.

The IAS will be participating in these two initiatives as they develop.

M F BROWN

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