

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS
REVISED AUDIT OVERSIGHT BOARD (AOB) HANDBOOK FOR REGISTRATION
(Date of Issuance: 13 June 2024)

The following table provides a summary of key amendments to the revised *AOB Handbook for Registration* (Handbook) issued on 13 June 2024:

A. Overview
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pursuant to a holistic review, the Handbook was revised with the aim to provide greater clarity and consistency to the requirements. The key amendments include, among others, enhancements to the criteria and conditions of registration. 2. Additional amendments were made to reflect changes based on the new <i>International Standards on Quality Management</i> (ISQM). 3. Housekeeping amendments throughout the Handbook, including stylistic or formatting changes and necessary changes of an editorial nature such as renumbering and rephrasing of certain requirements and contents, standardisation of terminology, updating of information and alphabetical order.

B. Amendment Highlights			
No.	Prior to 13 June 2024	Revised Version Dated 13 June 2024	Comments
Chapter 1: Introduction			
1.	Notes in Chapter 1	Paragraph 1.01	Repositioned the notes to this new paragraph to provide emphasis that the Handbook is issued under Section 158 of <i>Securities Commission Malaysia Act 1993</i> (SCMA) and has the effect of a guideline.
2.	Paragraph 1.02(f)	Paragraph 1.03(f)	Amended for better clarity and consistent with the provision in the SCMA.
3.	Paragraph 1.03	-	Deleted as this paragraph is no longer relevant.
4.	-	Paragraphs 1.05 – 1.06	Inserted new paragraphs for consistency with other guidelines.

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Chapter 2: Definitions			
5.	Paragraph 1.05	Paragraph 2.01	<p>Repositioned to Chapter 2 on Definitions.</p> <p>Inserted the following new definitions of—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'applicable quality standards' to provide greater clarity; • 'ARAS' to refer to the Auditor Registration Application System; • 'individual auditor' to provide clarity on references made to the same; and • 'stock exchange' to be consistent with the <i>Capital Markets and Services Act 2007</i>. <p>Amended the definitions of 'audit firm', 'engagement quality reviewer' and 'monitoring partner' to provide greater clarity.</p> <p>Deleted definitions of 'central depository', 'clearing house', 'exchange holding company', 'FSA', 'IFSA', 'International Standard on Quality Control 1 (ISQC 1)', 'managing partner', 'private retirement scheme' and 'unit trust scheme' as the terms are no longer being used in this Handbook.</p>
Chapter 3: Registration under the SCMA			
6.	Paragraph 2.01	Paragraphs 3.01 – 3.02	<p>Repositioned and amended to—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide better clarity on the registration requirement under the SCMA; and

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporate the requirement for the partner who is assigned responsibility for the audit firm's system of quality control to be registered with the AOB.
7.	Paragraphs 2.02 – 2.03	Paragraphs 3.03 – 3.04	Repositioned and amended to provide greater clarity.
8.	Paragraphs 2.04 – 2.07	-	Deleted as the types of public interest entities and schedule funds are specified in Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 1 in the SCMA.
9.	Paragraphs 2.08 – 2.09	-	Deleted as these paragraphs are no longer relevant.
Chapter 4: Registration Criteria			
10.	Paragraphs 3.01 – 3.06	Paragraphs 4.01 – 4.02	Repositioned and amended to— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance the registration criteria applicable to audit firm as well as simplifying the criteria for clarity; and incorporate the registration criteria which were introduced via circular on 2 October 2018.
11.	Paragraphs 3.08 – 3.12	-	Deleted pursuant to replacement of ISQC 1 with ISQM.
12.	Paragraphs 4.01 – 4.07	Paragraphs 4.03 – 4.04	Repositioned and amended to— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance the registration criteria applicable to individual auditors as well as simplifying the criteria for clarity; and incorporate the registration criteria which were introduced via circular on 2 October 2018.

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Chapter 5: Conditions of Registration			
13.	Paragraphs 5.02 – 5.03	Paragraphs 5.02 and 5.04	Amended to provide greater clarity.
14.	-	Paragraph 5.03	Inserted new paragraph to require compliance by a registered auditor of any condition imposed by the AOB, at all times.
16.	Paragraph 5.04	Paragraph 5.05	Repositioned and amended to— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide greater clarity on certain conditions; • incorporate the conditions which were introduced via circular on 2 October 2018; and • impose new conditions by requiring audit firm to provide immediate notification to AOB if it is aware that any of its registered auditor is no longer fulfilling the registration criteria and ensure that the registered individual auditors comply with the conditions imposed by AOB.
17.	-	Paragraph 5.06	Inserted new paragraph to stipulate the time frame to fill the vacancy of individual auditors registered by the AOB if the number of individual auditors falls below the minimum requirement.
18.	-	Paragraph 5.07	Inserted new paragraph to clarify on the automatic extension of time given if the audit firm is not able to comply with the condition to have at least one public interest entity or schedule fund audit client.

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19.	Paragraph 5.05	Paragraph 5.08	Repositioned and amended to— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide greater clarity on certain conditions; and • incorporate the conditions which were introduced via circular on 2 October 2018.
20.	Paragraphs 3.07 and 4.06	Paragraph 5.09	Repositioned and amended to provide greater clarity.
Chapter 6: Application Procedures and Fees			
21.	-	Paragraphs 6.04 and 6.05	Inserted new paragraph to clarify the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the information provided in the relevant forms and that the AOB may return any incomplete application or application which does not comply with the requirements of the Handbook.
22.	Paragraph 6.10	Paragraphs 6.09 and 6.13	Repositioned and amended to make reference to <i>the Securities Commission Malaysia (Audit Oversight Board) (Fees) Regulations</i> in respect of the registration fees and annual fees charged upon an individual auditor.
23.	-	Paragraphs 6.08 and 6.14	Inserted new paragraphs to provide clarity on— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the timing on the payment of registration fee; and • the AOB's power to revoke or suspend the registration of an auditor for failure to pay any fee imposed.
24.	Paragraph 6.31	Paragraph 6.12	Repositioned and amended for greater clarity.

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25.	Paragraph 6.32	Paragraph 6.13	Repositioned and amended for greater clarity.
26.	-	Paragraphs 6.15 – 6.16	Inserted new paragraphs to provide greater clarity on matters that require notification to the AOB.
27.	Paragraphs 6.15 – 6.26	Paragraphs 6.17 – 6.25	Amended to combine and streamline the requirements on the withdrawal of registration for audit firms and individual auditors.
28.	Paragraphs 6.27 – 6.29	-	Deleted the provisions relating to registration fees for audit firms undergoing merger as these are no longer applicable.
29.	-	Paragraph 6.26	Inserted new paragraph to clarify that the application for extension of time to comply with condition of registration must be submitted within the stipulated timeframe, accompanied with justifications and supporting documents.
Appendix 1: List of supporting documents to be submitted to the AOB for registration			
30.	-	-	Amended to require additional supporting documents for the purpose of registration of audit firm and individual auditor.