



A joint event organised by ECIIA, ecoDa and ACCA

## **Non-Financial Reporting : The impact for the relation between the Boards and the Auditors**

**DATE & LOCATION:** 15 March 2016 at the Press Club, rue Froissart, 95 1040 Brussels, 14.00h-17.00h, followed by a networking cocktail reception

### **CONTEXT:**

EU Member States are due to transpose by December 2016 the Directive on Non-Financial Reporting which aims to increase EU companies' transparency and performance in respect of environment and social matters. Large public-interest entities with more than 500 employees are required to disclose concise, useful information necessary for an understanding of their development, performance, position and impact of their activity.

The Directive specified that the Commission would develop guidelines for companies in order to facilitate their disclosure of non-financial information, taking into account current best practice, international developments and related EU initiatives.

To that end, the Commission has just launched a consultation to develop non-binding guidelines. The objective is to provide companies with a methodology to facilitate the disclosure of comparable non-financial information.

The conference organised by ECIIA, ecoDa and ACCA will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to exchange views on this important topic and input in this new initiative by illustrating some of best practices. The panellists will investigate how boards and internal and statutory auditors can better cooperate for an efficient implementation of the non-financial reporting directive. Depending on the size and the complexity of the organizations, both types of auditors may play a significant role to assist boards in reinforcing long term orientation.

Join the discussion and send your registration to [xiaoji.zhang@ecoda.org](mailto:xiaoji.zhang@ecoda.org) by March 10.

## **AGENDA:**

**14.00: Welcoming speech:** Turid Elisabeth Solvang, ecoDa's Chair

**14.10: Keynote speech:** "The Implementation of the non-Financial Reporting Directive", Nicolas Bernier-Abad, DG Fisma, European Commission

**14.20: The International perspective:** "Integrated Reporting: Waiting for Godot?", Neil Stevenson, Managing Director: Global Implementation

**14.30: Panel discussion** (30 minutes) – Moderator: Jo Iwasaki, Head of Corporate Governance, ACCA

*Introductory remarks:*

"The new reporting duties: What does it mean for the Board ?", Paola Schwitzer, Chair of Nedcommunity, ecoDa's board member

"How the internal auditor and the external auditor can help to avoid greenwashing?", Farid Aractingi, Chief Audit Executive, Renault, ECIIA board member

*Discussion on what are the key success factors for an accurate and effective non-financial reporting with:*

- Olivier Boutellis-Taft, CEO, European Federation of Accountants, FEE
- David Szafran, Lawyer at Law Square and Chair of ISAR 30th session at UNCTAD
- Carl Rosen, Vice chair of Better Finance and departing CEO of Aktiespararna and from April 1st Head of State ownership and innovation at the ministry of Enterprise (Sweden)

**15.45-16.00: Q&A**

**16.00-16.15: Remarks from** Richard Howitt, MEP

**16.15-16.30: Final conclusions from** Henrik Stein, ECIIA President

**16.30-17.30: Cocktail reception**

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