Appendix 3

(Ref: Para. A538)

##### Illustrations of Assurance Reports on Sustainability Information

* Illustration 1: Unmodified Reasonable Assurance Report on Sustainability Information of a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Fair Presentation Criteria
* Illustration 2: Unmodified Limited Assurance Report on Sustainability Information of an Entity Other than a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Compliance Criteria
* Illustration 3: Unmodified Combined Reasonable and Limited Assurance Report on Sustainability Information for an Entity Other than a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Compliance Criteria
* Illustration 4: Modified Limited Assurance Report on Sustainability Information of an Entity Other than a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Compliance Criteria

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| **Illustration 1 – Unmodified Reasonable Assurance Report on Sustainability Information of a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Fair Presentation Criteria**  For purposes of this illustrative assurance report, the following circumstances are assumed:   * A reasonable assurance engagement relating to the entirety of the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company), a listed entity, for the year ended December 31, 20X1 (the Sustainability Information). * The Sustainability Information is prepared by management of the Company in accordance with fair presentation criteria (Sustainability Reporting Framework Version x.1). * The Sustainability Information includes comparative information that is not referred to in the practitioner’s conclusion. The comparative information was subject to a reasonable assurance engagement by the same practitioner in the prior period and the practitioner’s conclusion was unmodified. * Management of the Company is the engaging party. * Those charged with governance are responsible for oversight of the Company’s sustainability reporting process. * The terms of the assurance engagement reflect the description of management’s responsibility for the Sustainability Information in ASSA 5000. * The practitioner has concluded that an unmodified (i.e., “clean”) opinion is appropriate based on the evidence obtained. * The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the assurance engagement comprise the Code together with legislative and other requirements. The Code and the ethical requirements relating to the assurance engagement, including independence requirements that are applicable to sustainability assurance engagements of public interest entities. They also require the practitioner to publicly disclose that the independence requirements applicable to sustainability assurance engagements of public interest entities were applied. * The firm of which the practitioner is a member applies ASQM 1. * The Sustainability Information and the practitioner’s report thereon have been included in the Company’s Annual Report. The practitioner has obtained the Annual Report prior to the date of the assurance report and has not identified a material misstatement of the other information in the Annual Report. * In addition to the reasonable assurance engagement on the Sustainability Information, the practitioner has other reporting responsibilities required under the law. |

*The following report is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to be exhaustive or applicable to all situations. The assurance report needs to be tailored to the engagement circumstances.*

**INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER’S REASONABLE ASSURANCE REPORT ON ABC’S SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION**

To the Management of ABC

**Reasonable Assurance Report on the Sustainability Information[[1]](#footnote-2)**

***Reasonable Assurance Opinion***

We have conducted a reasonable assurance engagement on the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the “Company”) for the year ended December 31, 20X1 (the “Sustainability Information”).

In our opinion, the accompanying Sustainability Information is fairly presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the Sustainability Reporting Framework Version x.1.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with Australian Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ASSA) 5000, *General Requirements for Sustainability Assurance Engagements*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Our responsibilities under this standard are further described in the *Practitioner’s Responsibilities* section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the applicable requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* issued by the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (November 2018 incorporating all amendments to *[insert ‘June 2024’ or ‘July 2025’, as applicable]*) (the Code), as applicable to sustainability assurance engagements of public interest entities, together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to assurance engagements of public interest entities in [*title/identification of requirements, name of appropriate authority and jurisdiction*]. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code.

Our firm applies Australian Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*, which requires the firm to design, implement and operate a system of quality management, including policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

***Emphasis of Matter[[2]](#footnote-3)***

*We draw attention to [identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Information], which describes […]. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.*

***Other Information[[3]](#footnote-4)***

Management of the Company is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the [information included in the Company’s Annual report],[[4]](#footnote-5) but does not include the Sustainability Information and our assurance report thereon.

Our opinion on the Sustainability Information does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our assurance engagement on the Sustainability Information, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Sustainability Information or our knowledge obtained in the assurance engagement, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

***Responsibilities for the Sustainability Information***

Management of the Company is responsible for:

* The preparation and fair presentation of the Sustainability Information in accordance with the Sustainability Reporting Framework Version x.1.
* Designing, implementing and maintaining such internal control that management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the Sustainability Information, in accordance with the Sustainability Reporting Framework Version x.1, that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company’s sustainability reporting process.

***Inherent Limitations in Preparing the Sustainability Information[[5]](#footnote-6)***

*As discussed in [identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Information], [provide a specific description of any significant inherent limitations associated with the measurement or evaluation of the sustainability matters against the applicable criteria].*

***Practitioner’s Responsibilities***

Our objectives are to plan and perform the assurance engagement to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Sustainability Information is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an assurance report that includes our opinion. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence decisions of users taken on the basis of the Sustainability Information.

As part of a reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with ASSA 5000, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the engagement. We also:

* Perform risk assessment procedures, including obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement, to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, at the assertion level for the disclosures but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control.[[6]](#footnote-7)
* Design and perform procedures responsive to the assessed risks of material misstatement at the assertions level for the disclosures. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

**Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

[*The form and content of this section of the assurance report will vary depending on the nature of the practitioner’s other reporting responsibilities. The matters addressed by other law, regulation or national standards (referred to as “other reporting responsibilities”) are addressed within this section unless the other reporting responsibilities address the same report elements as those presented in accordance with the reporting responsibilities required by ASSA 5000 as part of the Reasonable Assurance Report on the Sustainability Information section. The reporting of other reporting responsibilities that address the same report elements as those required by this ASSA may be combined (i.e., included in the Reasonable Assurance Report on the Sustainability Information section under the appropriate subheadings) provided that the wording in the assurance report clearly differentiates the other reporting responsibilities from the reporting that is required by ASSA 5000, when such a difference exists.*]

The engagement leader on the assurance engagement resulting in this independent practitioner’s assurance report is [*name*].

[*Signature in the name of the assurance firm, the personal name of the assurance practitioner, or both, as appropriate for the particular jurisdiction*]

[*Practitioner’s address*]

[*Date of the assurance report*]

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| **Illustration 2 – Unmodified Limited Assurance Report on Sustainability Information of an Entity Other than a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Compliance Criteria**  For purposes of this illustrative assurance report, the following circumstances are assumed:   * A limited assurance engagement relating to the entirety of the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company), an entity other than a listed entity, for the year ended December 31, 20X1, as required by law or regulation (the Sustainability Information). * The Sustainability Information is presented in a stand-alone document (i.e., the entity’s Sustainability Report). * The Sustainability Information is prepared by management of the Company in accordance with compliance criteria (XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X). * The Sustainability Information includes comparative information that is not referred to in the practitioner’s conclusion. The comparative information was subject to a limited assurance engagement by the same practitioner in the prior period and the practitioner’s conclusion was unmodified. * Management of the Company is the engaging party. * The terms of the assurance engagement reflect the description of management’s responsibility for the Sustainability Information in ASSA 5000. * The practitioner has concluded that an unmodified (i.e., “clean”) conclusion is appropriate based on the evidence obtained. * The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the assurance engagement comprise the Code and applicable legislative or other requirements, and the assurance report refers to both. * The firm of which the practitioner is a member applies ASQM 1. * There is no other information because the Sustainability Information is presented in a stand-alone document. |

*The following report is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to be exhaustive or applicable to all situations. The assurance report needs to be tailored to the engagement circumstances.*

**INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER’S LIMITED ASSURANCE REPORT ON ABC’S SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION**

To the Management of ABC

***Limited Assurance Conclusion***

We have conducted a limited assurance engagement on the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 20X1 (the “Sustainability Information”).

Based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying Sustainability Information is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.

***Basis for Conclusion***

We conducted our limited assurance engagement in accordance with Australian Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ASSA) 5000, *General Requirements for Sustainability Assurance Engagements,* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

The procedures in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for, a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

Our responsibilities under this standard are further described in the *Practitioner’s Responsibilities* section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the applicable requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* issued by the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (November 2018 incorporating all amendments to *[insert ‘June 2024’ or ‘July 2025’, as applicable]*) (the Code), together with the ethical requirements in [*title/identification of requirements, name of appropriate authority and jurisdiction*]. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code.

Our firm applies Australian Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements,* which requires the firm to design, implement and operate a system of quality management, including policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion.

***Emphasis of Matter[[7]](#footnote-8)***

*We draw attention to [identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Information], which describes […]. Our conclusion is not modified in respect of this matter.*

***Responsibilities for the Sustainability Information***

Management of the Company is responsible for:

* The preparation of the Sustainability Information in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.
* Designing, implementing and maintaining such internal control that management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the Sustainability Information, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

***Inherent Limitations in Preparing the Sustainability Information[[8]](#footnote-9)***

As discussed in *[identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Information]*, *[provide a specific description of any significant inherent limitations associated with the measurement or evaluation of the sustainability matters against the applicable criteria]*.

***Practitioner’s Responsibilities***

Our objectives are to plan and perform the assurance engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the Sustainability Information is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a limited assurance report that includes our conclusion. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence decisions of users taken on the basis of the Sustainability Information.

As part of a limited assurance engagement in accordance with ASSA 5000, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the engagement. We also:

* Perform risk assessment procedures, including obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement, to identify and assess the risks of material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, at the disclosure level but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control.[[9]](#footnote-10)
* Design and perform procedures responsive to assessed risks of material misstatement at the disclosures level. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

***Summary of the Work Performed***

A limited assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Sustainability Information. The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depend on professional judgement, including the assessed risks of material misstatement at the disclosures level, whether due to fraud or error.

In conducting our limited assurance engagement, we:

[*Insert a summary of the nature and extent of procedures performed that, in the practitioner’s judgement, provides additional information that may be relevant to the users’ understanding of the work performed to support the practitioner’s conclusion and the level of assurance obtained.*]*[[10]](#footnote-11)*

* […]

[*Signature in the name of the assurance firm, the personal name of the assurance practitioner, or both, as appropriate for the particular jurisdiction*]

[*Practitioner’s address*]

[*Date of the limited assurance report*]

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| **Illustration 3 – Unmodified Combined Reasonable and Limited Assurance Report on Sustainability Information for an Entity Other than a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Compliance Criteria, comprising:**   1. **Reasonable Assurance Opinion on the selected disclosures, [identified by …],[[11]](#footnote-12) from the Sustainability Report (“Information RA”)** 2. **Limited Assurance Conclusion on the selected disclosures, [identified by …],[[12]](#footnote-13) from the Sustainability Report (“Information LA”)**   For purposes of this illustrative assurance report, the following circumstances are assumed:   * A reasonable assurance engagement relating to Information RA and a limited assurance engagement relating to Information LA of the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company), an entity other than a listed entity, for the year ended December 31, 20X1, as required by law or regulation (the Sustainability Report). * The Sustainability Report represents the sustainability information reported by the Company and Information RA and Information LA represent the sustainability information subject to the assurance engagement. * The Sustainability Report is prepared by management of the Company in accordance with compliance criteria (XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X). * The Sustainability Report includes comparative information that is not referred to in the practitioner’s conclusion. With respect to the comparative information: comparative Information RA was subject to a reasonable assurance engagement, and comparative Information LA was subject to a limited assurance engagement, in the prior period, and the practitioner’s respective conclusions were unmodified. * Management of the Company is the engaging party. * The terms of the assurance engagement accurately reflect the description of management’s responsibility for the Sustainability Information in ASSA 5000. * The assurance practitioner has concluded that, based on the evidence obtained, an unmodified (i.e., “clean”) reasonable assurance opinion and limited assurance conclusion are appropriate with respect to Information RA and Information LA, respectively. * The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the assurance engagement comprise the Code and applicable legislative or other requirements, and the assurance report refers to both. * The firm of which the practitioner is a member applies ASQM 1. * Information LA and Information RA, and the practitioner’s report thereon, have been included in the Company’s Annual Report. The practitioner has obtained the Annual Report prior to the date of the assurance report and has not identified a material misstatement of the other information in the Annual Report. |

*The following report is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to be exhaustive or applicable to all situations. The assurance report needs to be tailored to the engagement circumstances.*

**INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER’S REASONABLE AND LIMITED ASSURANCE REPORT ON ABC’S SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION**

To the Management of ABC

***Reasonable Assurance Opinion***

We have conducted a reasonable assurance engagement on the selected disclosures, [identified by …],[[13]](#footnote-14) of the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 20X1 (“Information RA”).

In our opinion, the Information RA of the accompanying Sustainability Report is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.

***Limited Assurance Conclusion***

We have conducted a limited assurance engagement on the selected disclosures, [identified by …],[[14]](#footnote-15) included in the Sustainability Report of the Company for the year ended December 31, 20X1 (“Information LA”).

Based on the procedures performed and the evidence obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the Information LA of the accompanying Sustainability Report is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.

***Basis for*** ***Reasonable Assurance Opinion*** ***and Limited Assurance Conclusion***

We conducted our engagement in accordance with Australian Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ASSA) 5000 *General Requirements for Sustainability Assurance Engagements,* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

The procedures in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for, a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

Our responsibilities under this standard are further described in the *Practitioner’s Responsibilities* section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the applicable requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* issued by the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (November 2018 incorporating all amendments to *[insert ‘June 2024’ or ‘July 2025’, as applicable]*) (the Code), together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our assurance engagement of the Information RA and Information LA in [title/identification of requirements, name of appropriate authority and jurisdiction], and we have fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code..

Our firm applies Australian Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*, which requires the firm to design, implement and operate a system of quality management, including policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our reasonable assurance opinion and limited assurance conclusion.

***Emphasis of Matter[[15]](#footnote-16)***

*We draw attention to [identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Report] from the Information LA of the Sustainability Report, which describes […]. Our limited assurance conclusion is not modified in respect of this matter.*

***Other Information[[16]](#footnote-17)***

Management of the Company is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the [information included in the Company’s Annual Report],[[17]](#footnote-18) but does not include the Information RA and Information LA subject to this engagement and our assurance report thereon.

Our reasonable assurance opinion and limited assurance conclusion on Information RA and Information LA, respectively, do not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our limited and reasonable assurance engagements on the Information RA and Information LA, respectively, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Information RA and Information LA, respectively, or our knowledge obtained in the assurance engagement, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

***Responsibilities for the Sustainability Information***

Management of the Company is responsible for:

* The preparation of the Information RA and Information LA in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.
* Designing, implementing and maintaining such internal control that management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the Information RA and Information LA, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X, that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

***Inherent Limitations*** ***in Preparing the Sustainability Information[[18]](#footnote-19)***

As discussed in *[identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Report]*, *[provide a specific description of any significant inherent limitations associated with the measurement or evaluation of the sustainability matters against the applicable criteria]*.

***Practitioner’s Responsibilities***

Our objectives are to:

1. Plan and perform the assurance engagement to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Information RA is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an assurance report that includes our opinion.
2. Plan and perform the assurance engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the Information LA is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an assurance report that includes our conclusion.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence decisions of users taken on the basis of the Information RA and Information LA.

As part of both limited and reasonable assurance engagements in accordance with ASSA 5000, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the engagement. We also:

1. For a reasonable assurance engagement:

* Perform risk assessment procedures, including obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement, to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, at the assertion level for the disclosures but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control.[[19]](#footnote-20)
* Design and perform procedures responsive to the assessed risks of material misstatement at the assertions level for the disclosures in the Information RA. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

1. For a limited assurance engagement:

* Perform risk assessment procedures, including obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement, to identify and assess the risks of material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, at the disclosure level but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control.[[20]](#footnote-21)
* Design and perform procedures responsive to assessed risks of material misstatement at the disclosures level in the Information LA. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

***Summary of the Work Performed for Limited Assurance Conclusion***

A limited assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Information LA. The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depend on professional judgement, including the assessed risks of material misstatement at the disclosures level, whether due to fraud or error, in the Information LA.

In conducting our limited assurance engagement, we:

[*Insert a summary of the nature and extent of procedures performed that, in the practitioner’s judgement, provides additional information that may be relevant to the users’ understanding of the work performed to support the practitioner’s conclusion and the level of assurance obtained.*]*[[21]](#footnote-22)*

* […]

[*Signature in the name of the assurance firm, the personal name of the assurance practitioner, or both, as appropriate for the particular jurisdiction*]

[*Practitioner’s address*]

[*Date of the assurance report*]

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| **Illustration 4 – Modified Limited Assurance Report on Sustainability Information of an Entity Other than a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with Compliance Criteria**  For purposes of this illustrative assurance report, the following circumstances are assumed:   * A limited assurance engagement relating to the entirety of the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company), an entity other than a listed entity, for the year ended December 31,20X1, as required by law or regulation (the Sustainability Information). * The Sustainability Information is presented in a stand-alone document (i.e., the entity’s Sustainability Report). * The Sustainability Information is prepared by management of the Company in accordance with compliance criteria (XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X). * The Sustainability Information includes comparative information that is not referred to in the practitioner’s conclusion.The comparative information was subject to a limited assurance engagement by the same practitioner in the prior period and the practitioner’s conclusion was unmodified. * Management of the Company is the engaging party. * The terms of the assurance engagement reflect the description of management’s responsibility for the Sustainability Information in ASSA 5000. * The assurance practitioner has concluded that a modified conclusion is appropriate due to a limitation of scope arising from an inability to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence regarding an identified matter that the practitioner has determined is material but not pervasive. * The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the assurance engagement comprise the Code and applicable legislative or other requirements, and the assurance report refers to both. * The firm of which the practitioner is a member applies ASQM 1. * There is no other information because the Company's Sustainability Information is presented in a stand-alone document. |

*The following report is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to be exhaustive or applicable to all situations. The assurance report needs to be tailored to the engagement circumstances.*

**INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER’S LIMITED ASSURANCE REPORT ON ABC’S SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION**

To the Management of ABC

***Qualified Limited Assurance Conclusion***

We have conducted a limited assurance engagement on the Sustainability Report of ABC Company (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 20X1 (the “Sustainability Information”).

Based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained, except for the possible effect of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Conclusion section of our report, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying Sustainability Information is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.

***Basis for Qualified Conclusion***

The Company has disclosed […].[[22]](#footnote-23) We were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence about […] as at December 31, 20X1 because […].[[23]](#footnote-24) Consequently, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments to […] were necessary.

We conducted our limited assurance engagement in accordance with Australian Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ASSA) 5000, *General Requirements for Sustainability Assurance Engagements,* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

The procedures in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for, a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

Our responsibilities under this standard are further described in the *Practitioner’s Responsibilities* section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the applicable requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* issued by the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (November 2018 incorporating all amendments to *[insert ‘June 2024’ or ‘July 2025’, as applicable]*) (the Code), together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our assurance engagements of the Sustainability Information in *[title/identification of requirements, name of appropriate authority and jurisdiction]*. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code.

Our firm applies Australian Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*, which requires the firm to design, implement and operate a system of quality management, including policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified conclusion.

***Emphasis of Matter[[24]](#footnote-25)***

*We draw attention to [identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Information], which describes […]. Our conclusion is not modified in respect of this matter.*

***Responsibilities for the Sustainability Information***

Management of the Company is responsible for:

* The preparation of the Sustainability Information in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X.
* Designing, implementing and maintaining such internal control that management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the Sustainability Information, in accordance with XYZ Law of Jurisdiction X, that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

***Inherent Limitations in Preparing the Sustainability Information[[25]](#footnote-26)***

As discussed in *[identify the specific disclosure in the Sustainability Information]*, *[provide a specific description of any significant inherent limitations associated with the measurement or evaluation of the sustainability matters against the applicable criteria]*.

***Practitioner’s Responsibilities***

Our objectives are to plan and perform the assurance engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the Sustainability Information is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a limited assurance report that includes our conclusion. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence decisions of users taken on the basis of the Sustainability Information.

As part of a limited assurance engagement in accordance with ASSA 5000, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the engagement. We also:

* Perform risk assessment procedures, including obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement, to identify and assess the risks of material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, at the disclosure level but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control.[[26]](#footnote-27)
* Design and perform procedures responsive to assessed risks of material misstatement at the disclosures level. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

***Summary of the Work Performed***

A limited assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Sustainability Information. The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depend on professional judgement, including the assessed risks of material misstatement at the disclosures level, whether due to fraud or error.

In conducting our limited assurance engagement, we:

[*Insert a summary of the nature and extent of procedures performed that, in the practitioner’s judgement, provides additional information that may be relevant to the users’ understanding of the work performed to support the practitioner’s conclusion and the level of assurance obtained.*]*[[27]](#footnote-28)*

* […]

[*Signature in the name of the assurance firm, the personal name of the assurance practitioner, or both, as appropriate for the particular jurisdiction*]

[*Practitioner’s address*]

[*Date of the limited assurance report*]

1. The sub-title “Reasonable Assurance Report on the Sustainability Information” is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title “Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements” is not applicable. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Include if the practitioner considers it necessary in the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 199. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Another appropriate heading may be used, such as “Information Other than the Sustainability Information and Reasonable Assurance Report Thereon.” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. A more specific description of the other information, such as “the financial statements and notes thereto and chairman’s statement,” may be used to identify the other information. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Include paragraph if relevant to the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 190(g). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Remove the words “but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control " if the reasonable assurance engagement includes an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Include if the practitioner considers it necessary in the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 199. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. Include paragraph if relevant to the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 190(g). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. Remove “but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control " if the limited assurance engagement includes a conclusion on the effectiveness of internal control. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. The procedures are to be summarised but not to the extent that they are ambiguous, nor described in a way that is overstated or embellished or that implies that reasonable assurance has been obtained. It is important that the description of the procedures does not give the impression that those procedures were agreed upon by the assurance practitioner with management and in most cases will not detail the entire work plan. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Provide a specific identification and location of the information that is subject to a reasonable assurance opinion, which should be distinct from the information subject to a limited assurance conclusion (e.g. by tagging the specific disclosures in the Sustainability Information, Title of Section of the Sustainability Information, an Appendix to Assurance Report, etc.). [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Provide a specific identification and location of the information that is subject to a limited assurance conclusion, which should be distinct from the information subject to a reasonable assurance conclusion (e.g. by tagging the specific disclosures in the Sustainability Information, Title of Section of the Sustainability Information, an Appendix to Assurance Report, etc.). [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. Provide a specific identification and location of the information that is subject to a reasonable assurance opinion, which should be distinct from the information subject to a limited assurance conclusion (e.g. by tagging the specific disclosures in the Sustainability Information, Title of Section of the Sustainability Information, an Appendix to Assurance Report, etc.). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. Provide a specific identification and location of the information that is subject to a limited assurance conclusion, which should be distinct from the information subject to a reasonable assurance conclusion (e.g. by tagging the specific disclosures in the Sustainability Information, Title of Section of the Sustainability Information, an Appendix to Assurance Report, etc.). [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. Include if the practitioner considers it necessary in the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 199. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. Another appropriate heading may be used, such as “Information Other than the Sustainability Information and Reasonable and Limited Assurance Report Thereon”. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. A more specific description of the other information, such as “the financial statements and notes thereto and chairman’s statement,” may be used to identify the other information. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. Include paragraph if relevant to the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 190(g). [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. Remove “but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control” if the reasonable assurance engagement includes an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. Remove “but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control” if the limited assurance engagement includes a conclusion on the effectiveness of internal control. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. The procedures are to be summarised but not to the extent that they are ambiguous, nor described in a way that is overstated or embellished or that implies that reasonable assurance has been obtained. It is important that the description of the procedures does not give the impression that those procedures were agreed upon by the assurance practitioner with management, and in most cases will not detail the entire work plan. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. Insert a description of the relevant disclosure. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. Provide a description of the matter giving rise to, and the reasons for, the qualified conclusion. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. Include if the practitioner considers it necessary in the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 199. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. Include paragraph if relevant to the engagement circumstances – see paragraph 190(g). [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. Remove “but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control” if the limited assurance engagement includes a conclusion on the effectiveness of internal control. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. The procedures are to be summarised but not to the extent that they are ambiguous, nor described in a way that is overstated or embellished or that implies that reasonable assurance has been obtained. It is important that the description of the procedures does not give the impression that those procedures were agreed upon by the assurance practitioner with management, and in most cases will not detail the entire work plan. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)