ICAB Governance Pack 2026–2028 (Lean Committees Model)

Committee Architecture Summary

To align with the ICAB Strategy 2026–2028 and global governance best practice, ICAB will operate a lean set of standing committees focused on governance, oversight, and specialist judgement; operational execution will be handled by the Secretariat. Time-bound priorities will be delivered through Task Forces with clear deliverables and sunset clauses.

Committee Terms of Reference (Standard Template)

Each committee ToR should use a consistent structure to strengthen clarity and effectiveness:
1) Purpose and strategic alignment
2) Authority and delegation (Council-delegated decisions vs recommendations)
3) Scope of responsibilities
4) Annual outputs and KPIs
5) Composition (Chair/Deputy, co-option, D&I targets, independence requirements where relevant)
6) Meetings, quorum [1]and decision-making
7) Reporting and documentation
8) Conduct (conflicts of interest, confidentiality)
9) Annual self-assessment and ToR refresh

Quality Assurance & Practice Monitoring Committee (QAPM)

Purpose

Provide independent governance oversight of ICAB's quality assurance / practice monitoring programme for members performing audits and related assurance services, consistent with IFAC SMO 1 expectations and public interest credibility.

[1] "Reference is made to the proposed amendment to the ICAB By-Laws, By-Law 37. (6) The quorum requirement therein, namely that sixty per centum (60%) of the members of a Committee be present at a meeting, will apply to this document."

Key responsibilities

- Approve and oversee a documented QA/practice monitoring framework (scope, cycle, methodology, confidentiality, and escalation).
- Adopt a risk-based inspection plan (including remote / blended review options) and monitor completion.
- Oversee reviewer appointment criteria, competency, training, and independence declarations.
- Review results, require remediation plans, and recommend actions for significant deficiencies, including referrals where warranted.
- Identify systemic themes and recommend targeted CPD/technical initiatives to ECS/TPS.
- Provide aggregate reporting to Council (and members where appropriate) to demonstrate effectiveness and transparency.

Minimum annual outputs

- Annual QA/practice monitoring plan (risk-based; includes reviewer resourcing plan).
- Aggregate QA outcomes report and thematic analysis (annual).
- Remediation and follow-up programme metrics (timeliness and closure rates).
- Reviewer competency/training plan and annual independence/COI attestations.

Composition

Minimum 5 members, including at least one lay member. Strongly recommended: Chair is non-practising (industry/public sector/retired). Council members should not sit on QAPM to preserve independence optics. Reviewers are drawn from an approved reviewer pool and are not required to be committee members.

Meetings

Minimum quarterly during review cycle; additional meetings for remediation and escalation decisions as required.

Reporting

Quarterly report to Council (plan progress, themes, escalations). Annual aggregate QA report to Council and (where appropriate) members.