



Federation of European Accountants  
Fédération des Experts comptables Européens

# INFO

*Standing for trust and integrity*

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## Copenhagen United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 15) The Federation of European Accountants (FEE) calls for unified global standards to mitigate climate change

The importance of the forthcoming climate conference in Copenhagen cannot be overstated. We must all hope that those representing the nations of the world can achieve an outcome that can lead to greenhouse gas emissions being kept below the critically dangerous thresholds that are otherwise imminent. A successful outcome in Copenhagen will still leave much important work to be done in achieving the necessary progress.

Instrumental in this process of controlling greenhouse gas emissions will be the measurement, control, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions. These are the traditional areas of expertise of the accountancy profession. Reliable greenhouse gas information is crucial as a basis for the decisions to be taken by management, investors, stakeholders, policymakers and regulators.

Accountants have contributed to existing frameworks for the implementation of, and for assured reporting on, a range of sustainability measures, including the control of greenhouse gas emissions. While much has been learned during the course of this progress, there remains a need for the development of a clear, consistent and authoritative reporting framework.

**FEE urges policymakers to work with professional accountants and others to achieve a rigorous and trusted unified global reporting regime that can help to achieve a reduction in emissions and commends IAASB<sup>1</sup> for having published the Consultation Paper on Assurance on a Greenhouse Gas Statement. FEE believes that it is in the best interests of all parties to see carbon measurement, disclosure and assurance approaches standardised.**

FEE has issued a policy statement on carbon emissions information, along with a range of other relevant publications, which are all available for downloading from the FEE website, and are listed below.

### About FEE

**FEE (Fédération des Experts comptables Européens - Federation of European Accountants) represents 43 professional institutes of accountants and auditors from 32 European countries, including all of the 27 EU Member States.**

In representing the profession, FEE recognises the public interest. Professional accountants work in different capacities in public practice, small and big firms, in business and public sector; based on the practical experience gained in this daily involvement in all aspects of the economy and the set of values underpinning the profession's practice, FEE believes it has a contribution to make in the current discussions.

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<sup>1</sup> International Audit and Assurance Standards Board, the independent global standard setter under the auspices of IFAC, the International Federation of Accountants



## NOTES FOR EDITORS

### FEE Publications include:

Policy Statement - Shaping a Sustainable Economy (July 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Crisis%20PS%20V%20Shaping%20a%20Sustainable%20Economy%2009071672009341452.pdf>

Policy Statement - Towards a Sustainable Economy: The Contribution of Assurance (July 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Sustainability%20PS%20VI%20Sustainable%20Economy%20Contribution%20of%20Assurance%2009071672009301048.pdf>

Policy Statement - Carbon Emissions Information (July 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Sustainability%20PS%20VI%20Carbon%20Emissions%20Information%200907167200928105.pdf>

Policy Statement - Embedding Sustainability into Corporate Governance (July 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Sustainability%20PS%20V%20Embedding%20Sustainability%20into%20Corporate%20Governance%2009071672009261035.pdf>

Policy Statement - The Contribution of the Accountancy Profession (January 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Policy%20Statement%20The%20Contribution%20of%20the%20Accountancy%20Profession%2009011912009481523.pdf>

Policy Statement - Cost Internalisation (January 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Policy%20Statement%20Cost%20Internalisation%2009011912009471543.pdf>

Policy Statement - Non-Financial Information (January 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Policy%20Statement%20Non-Financial%20Information%200901191200946153.pdf>

Policy Statement - Multi-Stakeholders: The Essence of Multidisciplinary Teams (January 2009)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Policy%20Statement%20Multiple-Stakeholders%2009011912009451530.pdf>

Call for Action - Need to Increase Education in Sustainability for Accountants and Management! (December 2008)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Call%20for%20Action%20-%20Education%20in%20Sustainability%200811131200950850.pdf>

Discussion Paper Sustainability Information in Annual Reports - Building on Implementation of the Modernisation Directive (December 2008)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/DP%20Sustainability%20Information%20in%20Annual%20Reports%2008125122008561444.pdf>

Alert - Emissions Trading (January 2005)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/FEE%20Alert%20Emissions%20Trading%200501153200511130.pdf>

Fact Sheet - Greenhouse Gasses and the Accountancy Profession (June 2002)

<http://www.fee.be/fileupload/upload/Fact%20Sheet-Greenhouse%20Gasses173200551357.pdf>

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