



Jeffrey Hales, PhD

Chair of the SASB Standards Board

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REPORT OF THE SASB CHAIR

February 15, 2020 to May 27, 2020

Item I: Standards-Setting Activities

A. Standards Board Meetings

- On Feb 25, the Standards Board held public and closed meetings in San Francisco. The closed meeting was attended by some members of the Foundation Board. No technical standards setting activity took place during the closed portion of the meeting. A recording of the public meeting is available on SASB's website. At the public meeting, the Standards Board discussed several projects:
 - The Standards Board approved adding a standard setting project on raw materials sourcing in the Apparel, Accessories & Footwear Industry.
 - The Standards Board deferred voting on adding a project on supply chain management in the Tobacco Industry to its standard-setting agenda, and encouraged the SASB staff to continue to research the topic to further evaluate evidence of financial materiality.
 - The Standards Board discussed research exploring the relevance of alternative meat and dairy products across the Food & Beverage sector.
- On April 30, the Standards Board held a closed web-based meeting. The meeting was attended by some members of the Foundation Board. No technical standards setting activity took place during the meeting.
- The Standards Board will hold public and closed web-based meetings on June 22-23 and Sept 17-18 in New York City.

B. Standards Board Representation at SASB Foundation Board Meetings

- On Feb 26, the Chair of the Standards Board attended the Foundation Board meeting in San Francisco. The Chair provided an update on the recent activities of the Standards Board.
- On April 17, the Chair of the Standards Board attended the Foundation Board web-based meeting.

Item II: Interaction with Stakeholders and Advisory Groups

A. Other Public Meetings & Announcements

- On May 14, SASB held the first of a four-part Implementation Webinar Series. The next webinar will be held on June 3, where the Standards Board Chair Jeffrey Hales will be a panelist. Details for the series can be found on SASB's website.

B. Standards Advisory Group

- On April 8, SAG members were invited to participate in a project launch webinar for three recently approved projects in the Food and Beverage and Consumer Goods sectors to address key issues raised through evidence-based research and market consultation. The webinar featured SASB project leads outlining project objectives, timelines, and key questions to be address during the consultation phase.
- On May 15, SASB hosted a brief informational webinar to update SAG members and other stakeholders on the progress of the Human Capital Research Project and to solicit expressions of interest in providing SASB with feedback on the preliminary findings from our literature review.
- On various dates, members of the Research Team have had a series of 1-on-1 conversation SAG members regarding a series of topics related to challenges and opportunities related to the implementation and use of the SASB Standards, as well as potential research projects.

Item III: Additional Stakeholder Education and Communications

A. Selected Speaking Engagements and Presentations (SASB Standards Board and Staff)

- CECP Accelerate Community Event (February 24, Kurt Kuehn, Standards Board)
- University of Virginia, McIntire School of Commerce (February 27, Jeffrey Hales, Standards Board)
- University of Houston ESG Day (February 27, Robert Hirth, Standards Board)
- NOIA ESG Program (March 2, Jeffrey Hales, Standards Board)
- Raymond James Investor Conference (March 3, Kurt Kuehn, Standards Board)
- NIRI Silicon Valley Event (April 3, Verity Chegar, Standards Board; Greg Waters, Staff)
- IMA Strategic Management Webinar (April 6, Kurt Kuehn, Standards Board)
- ERM Oil & Gas Webinar (April 22, David Parham, Staff)
- Bloomberg Tax & Accounting State of Accounting Webinar (April 28, Jeffrey Hales, Standards Board)