

Presidents Forum
Paris
28 May 2006

Subject: Local Actuarial Standards of Practice

As many of you are aware, a fair number of full member associations do not have local standards of practice (see [appended chart](#)).

There are certainly a variety of reasons for this situation; one most likely being the relatively small size of the organization and its limited manpower resources. Indeed, it takes a fair amount of effort to produce standards of practice.

The fact remains that there are a number of significant advantages to having local standards of practice, namely:

- It promotes professionalism locally and internationally
- It provides a useful guide and safe harbor to actuaries practicing locally
- It enhances the work of local actuaries in the eyes of their public
- It provides security to the local clients, regulators, other professions and the industry
- It enhances the value and the image of the profession in the eyes of the local and international publics
- It increases the protection of the international image of the profession.

The fact remains that it is not a requirement for IAA membership to have local standards of practice, and rightly so, as new or recent IAA members are likely devoting their limited resources to education needed for the accreditation of their growing number of actuaries.

On the other hand, it is good risk management practice for an international organization to promote best practices across the whole organization in order to protect its members, its publics, its image and its reputation.

What can be done to improve on the current situation?

What are the major roadblocks to improvements of the situation?

Jean-Louis Massé