NEWS RELEASE

May 28, 2018

IAA Pensions and Employee Benefits Committee Releases Monograph on Defined Benefit Pension Plan Funding and the Role of Actuaries

The International Actuarial Association’s Pensions and Employee Benefits Committee (PEBC) is pleased to announce the publication of the monograph Defined Benefit Pension Plan Funding and the Role of Actuaries.

The monograph considers the funding of defined benefit (DB) pension plans and specifically the prefunding of DB pension plans rather than pay-as-you-go systems. It looks at some of the key questions that arise when considering how pension plans are funded and the role of actuaries in helping to answer these questions. It looks too at some of the key drivers for different approaches to pension plan funding.

Although the focus of this monograph is the actuarial issues and questions that arise in DB pension plan funding, it is also intended to be of interest to those who are involved in the policy of designing systems for the funding or regulation of DB pension plans.

The monograph is a timely publication particularly as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Party on Private Pensions is simultaneously conducting its own work on DB pension arrangements. The IAA and the OECD are pleased about complementary, collaborative work done by the two organizations addressing actuarial issues and questions that arise in DB pension plan funding.

Charles Cowling, PEBC Vice-Chairperson, who led the development of the paper, said “DB pension schemes represent some of the most important financial institutions around the world, both in terms of the importance they have for individuals saving for retirement and also in terms of the impact they have on financial markets and the employers making retirement provision for their employees. Whilst there are many differences between countries and their local regulations, there are also many similarities. Indeed, at a time when DB pension schemes across the world are under pressure due to challenges of increasing longevity and difficult market conditions the problems faced in different countries can be very similar. We therefore hope many will find it instructive and helpful to consider the questions and issues raised in this monograph and the examples of how different countries have responded to the pressures of funding DB pension schemes.”

The paper is available on the IAA website.

This activity supports the IAA’s mission to promote the role, reputation and recognition of the actuarial profession contributing to the well-being of society. Further, it contributes towards achieving the IAA’s strategic objectives to provide relevant supranational organizations with actuarial input on matters of importance; to facilitate the coordination, use and expansion of the scientific knowledge and skills of the actuarial profession; and, to help enhance the scope, availability, and quality of actuarial services offered by individual members of its member associations.
To learn more about the work of the IAA on this topic, contact the Director of Technical Activities at the IAA Secretariat.

*Ce communiqué de nouvelles est aussi disponible en français.*

The International Actuarial Association (IAA) is the worldwide association of professional actuarial associations, representing approximately 70,000 actuaries in more than 115 countries, with seven special interest Sections for individual actuaries. The IAA was founded in 1895 and exists to encourage the development of a global actuarial profession, acknowledged as technically competent and professionally reliable, which will ensure that the public interest is served. The IAA has 73 Full Member Associations and 25 Associate Member Associations.

**International Actuarial Association | Association Actuarielle Internationale**

99 Metcalfe Suite 1203 Ottawa, ON K1P 6L7 Canada
Tel: 1-613-236-0886 | Fax: 1-613-236-1386
secretariat@actuaries.org | [www.actuaries.org](http://www.actuaries.org)