

PART A – APPLICABLE TO ALL CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

SECTION 1

Integrity and Objectivity

- 1.1 Integrity implies not merely honesty but fair dealing and truthfulness. The principle of objectivity imposes the obligation on all chartered accountants to be fair, intellectually honest and free of conflicts of interest.
- 1.2 Chartered accountants serve in many different capacities and should demonstrate their objectivity in varying circumstances. Chartered accountants in practice undertake reporting assignments, and render tax and other management advisory services. Other chartered accountants prepare financial statements as a subordinate of others, perform internal auditing services, and serve in financial management capacities in industry, commerce, the public sector and education. They also educate and train those who aspire to admission into the profession. Regardless of service or capacity, chartered accountants should protect the integrity of their professional services and maintain objectivity in their judgement.
- 1.3 In selecting the situations and practices to be specifically dealt within ethics requirements relating to objectivity, adequate consideration should be given to the following factors:-
 - (a) Chartered accountants are exposed to situations which involve the possibility of pressures being exerted on them. These pressures may impair their objectivity.
 - (b) It is impracticable to define and prescribe all such situations where these possible pressures exist. Reasonableness should prevail in establishing standards for identifying relationships that are likely to or appear to, impair a chartered accountant's objectivity.
 - (c) Relationships should be avoided which allow prejudice, bias or influences of others to override objectivity.
 - (e) Chartered accountants have an obligation to ensure that personnel engaged on professional services adhere to the principle of objectivity.
 - (e) Chartered accountants should neither accept nor offer gifts or entertainment which cannot reasonably be believed to have a significant and improper influence on their professional judgement or those with whom they deal. What constitutes an expensive gift or offer of entertainment is left to members' judgement but they should avoid circumstances which would bring their professional standing into disrepute.