Responses to proposed changes to ILOs under IES 2 Initial Professional Development - Technical Competencies

Technical Com	Ī
ILOs	Proposed change
(a) Financial accounting, disclosure and	• Suggest using the term 'corporate'
reporting (Intermediate)	before the words 'disclosure and
	reporting' in this TC (as indicated
	below) to reflect the broader spectrum
	of disclosures covered here beyond
	financial disclosures and reports.
	Financial accounting, and corporate
	disclosure and reporting
	Suggest providing explanatory notes Suggest providing explanatory notes
	for the entities covered under
	'corporate entities' and components
II () (i) Apply accounting principles to	covered under 'corporate reporting'.
ILO (i) Apply accounting principles to	Agree with the proposed change while
transactions, facts, and circumstances.	suggesting to provide explanatory notes to indicate the meaning of the
	terms 'facts' and 'circumstances'.
ILO (ii) Apply International Financial	Suggest including the term
Reporting Standards (IFRSs) or other relevant	'framework' after the other relevant
standards to transactions, facts, and	standards and reword this ILO as
circumstances.	follows.
	Apply International Financial Reporting
	Standards (IFRSs) or other relevant
	standards and frameworks to
	transactions, facts, and circumstances.
	■ Suggest removing the term 'IFRS' used
	before the phrase 'accounting
	standards' in the footnote and reword it
	as follows to capture both IASs and
	IFRSs.
	IFRSs include Accounting Standards
	issued by the International Accounting
	Standards Board, as well as IFRS
	Sustainability Disclosure Standards
	issued by the International Sustainability
	Standards Board.
	 Suggest providing an explanatory footnote for other relevant standards
	like the footnote given for IFRSs. The
	other relevant standards may include
	GRI Standards, SASB Standards,
	CDSB Framework, International <ir></ir>
	Framework etc.
ILO (iii) Evaluate the appropriateness of	Agree with the Panel's view.
accounting policies used to prepare financial	
statements.	

ILO (iv) Evaluate the appropriateness of policies used to prepare sustainability	Agree with the proposed change.
disclosures and reports.	
ILO (v) Prepare financial statements, including consolidated financial statements, and sustainability disclosures, in accordance with IFRSs or other relevant standards.	 Suggest including the term 'reports' after the phrase 'sustainability disclosures' to be consistent with other ILOs and the word 'framework after the phrase 'other relevant standards.' Accordingly, it is proposed to reword this ILO as follows. Prepare financial statements, including consolidated financial statements, and sustainability disclosures and reports, in accordance with IFRSs or other relevant standards and frameworks.
ILO (vi) Interpret financial statements, sustainability disclosures, and other disclosures and reports.	 Suggest referring to consolidated financial statements and including the term 'reports' after sustainability disclosures to be consistent with other ILOs and reword this ILO as follows. Interpret financial statements including consolidated financial statements, sustainability disclosures and reports, and other related disclosures and reports. Suggest providing an explanatory note for other related disclosures and reports. The other related disclosures may include operating and financial review (OFR), corporate governance statement, directors' remuneration report, climate report, modern slavery statement etc.
ILO (vii) Interpret reports that include non-financial data and information.	• Suggest revising this ILO as follows to give emphasis on sustainability disclosures and reports: Interpret financial statements, sustainability disclosures and reports, and other non-financial data and information.
(b) Management accounting (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Prepare data and information to support management decision making on topics including setting metrics and targets, planning and budgeting, cost management, quality control, performance measurement, and comparative analysis.	 Suggest replacing the term 'prepare' with 'provide'. Suggest to adding an explanatory note or a definition (e.g., in glossary) for 'management decision making' as it can be defined broadly or narrowly in management accounting.

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ILO (ii) Apply appropriate technology and techniques to support management decision making, including product costing, variance analysis, inventory management, budgeting and forecasting, and value chain analysis.	■ Agree to keep 'setting metrics and targets' while providing a broader definition of 'metrics' in the glossary. ■ Suggest deleting 'quality' in 'quality control' as management accounting data and information can be used for a variety of control purposes, not only for quality controls. Accordingly, we suggest presenting this ILO as follows. Provide data and information to support management decision making on topics including setting metrics and targets, planning and budgeting, cost management, controls, performance measurement, and comparative analysis. ■ Suggest aligning the references to 'management decision making' with what was stated earlier in ILO (i). For instance, as per this ILO, the use of technology is not highlighted for 'performance measurement.' Therefore, ensure the use of technology for the full spectrum of management decision making is consistently highlighted in ILO (i) above. ■ Suggest adding 'value chain' in the ILO (i) to be consistent with 'value chain
ILO (iii) Apply appropriate quantitative	analysis' included in this ILO. Suggest adding 'and qualitative' or deleting 'guantitative' as cost analysis
techniques to analyze cost behavior and the drivers of costs.	deleting 'quantitative' as cost analysis techniques could involve both.
ILO (iv) Analyze data and information to consider alternatives and enable management to make informed decisions making.	Agree with the proposed change
ILO (v) Evaluate the performance of an organization and its business segments, products, and services against metrics and targets. (c) Finance and financial management	 Suggest adding 'value chain performance' as this ILO is primarily concentrated on the internal aspects of an organization because value chain analysis is a necessity in sustainability. Accordingly, the revised version for this ILO is suggested as follows. Evaluate the performance of an organization, business segments, products, and services, and value chain performance against metrics and targets.
(Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Compare the various sources of financing available to an organization,	 Suggest rewording this ILO as follows.

including bank financing, financial instruments, and bond, equity and treasury markets.	Compare the various sources of financing available to an organization, in the form of equity and debt financing, including compound instruments and derivates.
ILO (ii) Analyze the current and anticipated financial performance and position of an organization, using techniques including ratio analysis, trend analysis, and cash flow analysis, and scenario analysis.	 Suggest adding 'non-financial' and 'horizontal and vertical analysis' while deleting 'trend analysis and cashflow analysis.' Accordingly, the revised version for this ILO is suggested as follows. Analyze the current and anticipated financial and non-financial performance and position of an organization, using techniques including ratio analysis, horizontal and vertical analysis, and scenario analysis. Also suggest adding a definition for the term 'current,' to indicate whether it includes past information as well. Further, suggest adding a definition for the term 'anticipated' – i.e., whether this term should include short, medium- and long-term time horizons and guidance on how to define, these time horizons.
ILO (iii) Analyze the current and anticipated financial performance and position of an organization, using techniques including ratio analysis, trend analysis, cash flow analysis, and scenario analysis.	Agree with the proposed change
ILO (iv) Evaluate the appropriateness of the components used to calculate an organization's cost of capital.	■ Agree with the Panel's view
ILO (v) Evaluate capital investment decisions, using capital budgeting techniques and consideration of strategic factors	 Suggest adding 'non-financial factors' as the inclusion of 'strategic factors' may not fully capture the sustainability consideration in capital budgeting. Accordingly, it is suggested to revise this ILO as follows. Evaluate capital investment decisions, using capital budgeting techniques and consideration of strategic and non-financial factors
ILO (vi) Explain income, asset-based, and market valuation approaches used for investment decisions, business planning, and long-term financial management.	Suggest adding the term '-based' for income and market valuation methods to make it clearer.

(d) Taxation (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Explain national taxation compliance	■ Suggest making one of the following
and filing requirements.	amendments to this ILO.
and ming requirements.	o Provide an explanatory note to
	indicate that national taxation
	compliance captures tax incentives
	and disincentives relevant to
	sustainability dimensions. These
	incentives and disincentives include
	Tax Credits and Incentives, Carbon
	Taxes and Emissions Trading, Waste
	Management Fees, Land Use Taxes
	and Renewable Energy Incentives.
	 Expand this ILO to reflect the above-
	mentioned areas.
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	o Include a separate ILO to capture the tax incentives and disincentives
	relevant to sustainability dimensions.
ILO (ii) Prepare direct and indirect tax	Agree with the Panel's view.
calculations for individuals and organizations.	- Agree with the raner's view.
ILO (iii) Analyze the taxation issues associated	Agree with the Panel's view.
with non- complex international transactions.	- Agree with the raner's view.
ILO (iv) Explain the differences between tax	Suggest either including an explanatory
planning, tax avoidance, and tax evasion.	note as to the applicability of tax
planning, tax avoidance, and tax evasion.	planning, tax avoidance and tax
	evasion as to sustainability dimensions
	or expanding this ILO to reflect the
	applicability of these aspects to
	sustainability.
(e) Audit (Intermediate)	Agree with the inclusion of
(c) Thur (mediate)	'Assurance' as a separate TC.
ILOs (i) Describe the elements, objectives, and	Agree with the proposed change.
phases involved in performing an audit of	rigide with the proposed change.
financial statements.	
ILO (ii) Apply International Standards on	■ Agree with the proposed change.
Auditing (ISAs) or other relevant auditing	Tigies with the proposes entanger
standards, laws, and regulations applicable to	
an audit of financial statements.	
ILO (iii) Assess the risks of material	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
misstatement in the financial statements and	
consider the impact on the audit strategy.	
ILO (iv) Apply quantitative methods and	■ Agree with the proposed change.
appropriate automated tools and techniques	rigide with the proposed change.
used in audit engagements.	
ILO (v) Identify relevant audit evidence,	■ Agree with the proposed change.
including contradictory evidence, to form	O Warm brokens awards.
judgments, and reach informed conclusions.	
ILO (vi) Conclude whether sufficient and	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
appropriate audit evidence has been obtained.	<i>3</i>
	
Removal of ILO (vii)	 Agree with the proposed change.

(f) Assurance (Foundation)	
ILO (i) Describe the elements, objectives, and phases involved in performing assurance engagements, including assurance of	■ Agree with the proposed change.
sustainability information. ILO (ii) Explain international standards on assurance or other relevant assurance standards, laws, and regulations, including those applicable to assurance of sustainability	■ Agree with the proposed change.
information. ILO (iii) Describe the risks of material misstatement and consider the impact on an assurance engagement.	• Suggest changing this ILO as follows to be consistent with the other ILOs. Describe the risks of material misstatement and consider the impact on an assurance engagement including sustainability assurance.
ILO (iv) Identify relevant assurance evidence, including contradictory evidence, to form judgments, and reach informed conclusions.	■ Agree with the proposed change.
	 Suggest providing a separate ILO as indicated below to reflect the ability to apply the methods and techniques used in the sustainability assurance engagement like the ILO (iv) under audit. Apply appropriate methods and techniques in assurance engagements including sustainability assurance.
(g) Governance, risk management, and	
ILO (i) Explain the principles of good governance, including the rights and responsibilities of owners, investors, and those charged with governance; and the role of stakeholders in governance, disclosure, and transparency requirements.	 Suggest expanding this ILO to include 'sustainability and resilience' as a principle of good governance because it is an essential requirement in corporate governance. International corporate governance frameworks too recognise this as a separate principle-e.g. OECD revised principles on corporate governance (2023). Accordingly, it is suggested rewording this ILO as follows. Explain the principles of good governance including sustainability and resilience, the rights and responsibilities of owners, investors, and those charged with governance, and the role of stakeholders in governance disclosure, and transparency requirements.
ILO (ii) Analyze the components of an organization's governance framework.	 Suggest expanding this ILO to reflect the presence of mechanisms to focus

	on sustainability within an
	organisation's governance framework.
ILO (iii) Analyze an organization's risks and	Suggest distinguishing risks and
opportunities using a risk management	opportunities as financial and
framework.	sustainability in this ILO as shown
	below.
	Analyze an organization's financial and
	sustainability risks and opportunities
	using a risk management framework.
ILO (iv) Analyze the components of internal	• Agree with the proposed change.
control related to external reporting.	rigice with the proposed change.
ILO (v) Analyze the adequacy of systems,	■ Agree with the proposed change.
	- Agree with the proposed change.
processes and controls for collecting,	
generating, storing, accessing, using, sharing,	
or reporting data and information.	
(h) Business laws and regulations	
(Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Explain the laws and regulations that	• Suggest revising this ILO to reflect the
govern the different forms of legal entities.	presence of laws and regulations that
	govern sustainability dimensions as
	indicated below.
	Explain the laws and regulations
	including sustainability-related
	dimensions that govern the different
	forms of legal entities.
ILO (ii) Explain the laws and regulations	 Suggest changing the term
applicable to the environment in which	'environment' to 'context' as
professional accountants operate.	environment is an essential component
	of sustainability.
ILO (iii) Apply data protection and privacy	 Agree with the proposed change.
regulations when collecting, generating,	
storing, accessing, using, sharing, or reporting	
data and information.	
(i) Information and communications	
Technology (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Explain the impact of Information and	■ Suggest defining the terms 'ICT' and
Communications Technologies (ICT)	'business model.'
developments on an organization's	ousniess model.
environment and business model.	
	■ A gray with the Danel's view
ILO (ii) Explain how ICT supports data	• Agree with the Panel's view.
analysis and decision making.	- A amag swide 4h - Daniella - '
ILO (iii) Explain how ICT supports the	• Agree with the Panel's view.
identification, reporting, and management of	
risk in an organization.	14 6 = 11
ILO (iv) Use ICT to analyze data and	 Agree with the Panel's view.
information.	
ILO (v) Use ICT to enhance the efficiency and	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
effectiveness of communication.	

ILO (vi) Apply ICT to enhance the efficiency	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
and effectiveness of an organization's systems.	A '.1 .1 D .1
ILO (vii) Analyze the adequacy of ICT	Agree with the Panel's view.
processes and controls.	A 24 4 D 49
ILO (viii) Identify improvements to ICT	Agree with the Panel's view.
processes and controls.	
(j) Business and organizational Environment (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Describe the context in which	■ Suggest deleting 'regulatory' to retain
	 Suggest deleting 'regulatory' to retain the widely accepted 'PESTEL' model
an organization operates, including the	· · ·
primary political, economic, sociocultural, technological, environmental, legal, and	that includes the regulatory aspect in its legal perspective.
regulatory aspects.	legal perspective.
ILO (ii) Describe an organization's business	Agree with the inclusion of this new
model, including its value chain.	ILO.
ILO (iii) Analyze aspects of the global environment that affect international trade and	Agree with the Panel's view.
finance.	
ILO (iv) Identify the features of globalization,	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
including the role of multinationals and	- Agree with the raner's view.
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emerging markets. (k) Economics (Foundation)	
ILO (i) Describe the fundamental principles of	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
microeconomics and macroeconomics.	- Agree with the raner's view.
ILO (ii) Describe the effect of changes in	■ Suggest replacing the term 'business
macroeconomic indicators on business	activity' with 'business performance' to
activity.	encapsulate economic, environmental,
activity.	social, and governance aspects. If
	necessary, an explanation note or a
	definition of 'business performance'
	can be added to reflect this meaning. It
	is also suggested to use the term
	'factors' instead of the term' indicators'
	as it gives a better reflection of the
	macroeconomic implications
	emphasised in this ILO.
	Accordingly, suggest rewording this
	ILO as follows.
	Describe the effect of changes in
	macroeconomic factors on business
	performance.
ILO (iii) Explain the different types of market	Agree with the Panel's view.
structures, including perfect competition,	115100 with the 1 third 5 view.
monopolistic competition, monopoly, and	
oligopoly.	
(I) Business strategy and management	
(Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Explain the various ways that	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
organizations may be designed and structured.	rigide with the ranci s view.
organizations may be designed and structured.	

ILO (ii) Explain the purpose and importance of different types of functional and operational areas within organizations.	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (iii) Analyze the external and internal factors that affect the business model, value chain, and the strategy of an organization using a systems-thinking approach.	Suggest adding an explanatory note or a definition of 'systems-thinking approach.'
ILO (iv) Explain the processes that may be used to develop and implement the strategy of an organization.	• Suggest including the 'control' aspects of the strategy of an organization as follows in this ILO. Explain the processes that may be used to develop, implement and control the strategy of an organization.
ILO (v) Explain how theories of organizational behavior may be used to enhance the performance of the individual, team, and the organization.	 This ILO covers organizational performance from economic, social, environmental, and governance perspectives if a definition of 'organizational performance' is provided in (k) Economics (ii) as suggested above. Suggest using the term 'could' instead of 'may' in this ILO.

Responses to proposed changes to ILOs under IES 3 Initial Professional Development – Professional Skills

ILOs	Proposed change
Intellectual (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Evaluate data and information from a variety of sources and perspectives through research, collaboration, integration, and analysis.	 Agree with the proposed change. However, we are uncertain whether the term 'analysis' includes synthesizing analyzed information to create a holistic understanding of the data and information. Hence, we suggest considering the inclusion of 'synthesis' and revise this ILO as follows. Evaluate data and information from a variety of sources and perspectives through research, collaboration, integration, analysis and synthesis.
ILO (ii) Identify when it is appropriate to consult with specialists.	 Agree with the Panel's view to move this ILO as ILO (ii). However, suggest using the term 'experts' instead of 'specialists' in this ILO. Also suggest providing an explanation for the term 'experts/specialists' whether it means both internal and external parties.
ILO (iii) Apply critical thinking skills to solve problems, form judgments, and reach informed conclusions.	Agree with the proposed change.
ILO (iv) Recommend solutions to unstructured, multifaceted problems.	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (v) Evaluate changing facts and circumstances to solve problems, form judgments, and reach informed conclusions.	Agree with the proposed change.
(b) Interpersonal and communication (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Demonstrate effective communication, collaboration, and cooperation when working within multi-disciplinary teams.	 Agree with the proposed change. However, we think the 'multidisciplinary teams' is still focused internally within the organization. Hence, we suggest also adding 'diverse stakeholders' to highlight the importance of communicating, collaborating and cooperating with external parties outside the organization. Accordingly, we propose to revise this ILO as follows. Demonstrate effective communication, collaboration, and cooperation when

	working within multi-disciplinary teams
	and diverse stakeholder groups.
ILOs (ii) Develop clear and concise communications for specific audiences.	Agree with the proposed change.
ILO (iii) Apply key concepts of diversity,	■ Agree with the proposed change.
equity and inclusion in communication,	However, suggest improving the clarity
considering and respecting language and	of ILO (iii).
contextual differences.	of ize (iii).
ILO (iv) Apply active listening and effective	Agree with the proposed change.
questioning techniques.	Agree with the proposed change.
Removal of original ILO (v)	■ Suggest keeping the original ILO (v). We believe that the 'application of negotiation skills' is not too advanced for new professional accountants, as it is a fundamental skill required for any accountant irrespective of their seniority.
ILO (v) Apply consultative skills to minimize	Agree with the Panel's view.
or resolve conflict, solve problems, and	- Agree with the ranet's view.
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maximize opportunities.	- A
ILO (vi) Present informed views and ideas to	Agree with the proposed change.
influence others to provide support and	
commitment.	
(c) Personal (Intermediate)	- A './1 /1 D 12 '
ILO (i) Demonstrate a commitment to lifelong	Agree with the Panel's view.
learning.	- A
ILO (ii) Set high personal standards of	Agree with the Panel's view.
performance and monitor through reflective	
activity and feedback from others.	A '.1 .1 D .12
ILO (iii) Manage time and resources to achieve professional commitments.	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (iv) Anticipate challenges and plan	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
potential solutions.	
ILO (v) Apply intellectual curiosity to	■ We broadly agree with the revised
emerging ideas and practices	changes. However, we believe that
	'learning to learn' is a skill that new
	professional accountants should
	develop in the fast-changing business
	environment. Also, we suggest
	'develop' is a better action verb for
	'intellectual curiosity.'
	 Hence, it is suggested to revise this
	ILO as follows.
	Develop intellectual curiosity and
	learning to learn skills for emerging
	ideas and practices
II (Vi) Identify the notantial impact of	
ILO (vi) Identify the potential impact of personal and organizational bias.	Agree with the Panel's view.
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(d) Organizational (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Undertake assignments in accordance with established practices to meet prescribed deadlines.	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (ii) Review own work and that of others to determine whether it complies with the organization's quality standards.	*Agree with the Panel's view. However, suggest adding the term 'professional' after the term 'quality.' Accordingly, this ILO can be reworded as follows. Review own work and that of others to determine whether it complies with the organization's quality and professional standards.
ILO (iii) Apply people management skills to motivate and develop others.	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (iv) Apply delegation skills to deliver assignments.	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (v) Apply leadership skills to influence others to work towards organizational goals.	 Agree with the Panel's view. However, we propose to expand the ILO (v) to capture the contribution to sustainable development. Accordingly, the ILO (v) can be restated as follows. Apply leadership skills to influence others to work towards organizational goals and contribute to sustainable development.

Responses to proposed changes to ILOs under IES 4 Initial Professional Development - Professional Values, Ethics, and Attitudes

ILOs	Proposed change
(a) Professional scepticism and professional	
judgment (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Apply an inquiring mind when	■ Suggest providing an explanatory note
collecting and assessing data and information	for the term 'perspectives' considering
from a variety of sources and perspectives.	its wide coverage.
ILO (ii) Apply techniques to reduce bias when	Suggest providing an explanatory note
solving problems, forming judgments, reaching	to indicate the possible biasness in
informed conclusions, and communicating with	communicating with stakeholders in
stakeholders.	various forms of internal and external
	reporting. These could include earnings
	management, window dressing of
	financial statements, greenwashing, in
	sustainability reporting, budget
TO (III) A 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	slacking, and empire building.
ILO (iii) Apply critical thinking when	Agree with the Panel's view. However,
identifying and evaluating alternatives to	this ILO can state 'critical thinking
determine an appropriate course of action.	skills' instead of 'critical thinking' to
	maintain consistency with IES 3 (a)
(b) Ethical principles (Intermediate)	ILO (iii).
(b) Ethical principles (Intermediate)	Suggest providing an avalenatory note
ILO (i) Explain the importance of relevant ethical requirements to all professional	 Suggest providing an explanatory note to elaborate the different types of
activities.	professional activities undertaken by
activities.	new professional accountants.
ILO (ii) Apply relevant ethical requirements to	Agree with the proposed change.
all professional activities.	rigios with the proposed shanger
Removal of original ILO (ii)	■ Agree with the Panel's view.
ILO (iii) Identify threats to compliance with	Agree with the Panel's view.
the fundamental principles of ethics.	5
ILO (iv) Evaluate the significance of threats to	 Suggest adding the phrase 'in all
compliance with the fundamental principles of	professional activities' to this ILO to
ethics and respond appropriately.	be consistent with other ILOs in this
	standard.'
	 Accordingly, this ILO can be
	reworded as follows:
	Evaluate the significance of threats to
	compliance with the fundamental
	principles of ethics in all professional
HO() A 1 C 1	activities and respond appropriately.
ILO (v) Apply fundamental principles of ethics	Agree with the proposed change.
when collecting, generating, storing, accessing,	
using, sharing, or reporting data and	
information. Removal of original II O (vi)	A area with the Denet's view to many
Removal of original ILO (vi)	Agree with the Panel's view to remove the ILO and replace with ILO (iv).
	Please refer to our response to ILO (iv)
	above.
	autre.

(c) Commitment to the public interest (Intermediate)	
ILO (i) Explain the role and importance of ethics within the profession and in relation to the concept of social responsibility.	Suggest rewording this ILO as follows to emphasise the role of ethics in sustainable development: Explain the role and importance of ethics within the profession and in relation to social responsibility and sustainable development.
ILO (ii) Explain the role and importance of ethics in relation to business and good governance.	 Suggest rewording this ILO as follows to emphasise the role of ethics in sustainable development: Explain the role and importance of ethics in relation to business, good governance and sustainable development.
ILO (iii) Analyze the interrelationship of ethics and law, including the relationship between laws, regulations, and the public interest.	Agree with the Panel's view.
ILOs (iv) Analyze the consequences of unethical behavior to the individual, the profession, and the public.	Agree with the Panel's view.