

Unofficial translation

Regulations for Quality management systems

27 June 2017

Koninklijke Nederlandse
Beroepsorganisatie
van Accountants



NBA

This document is a translation of the official Dutch version.
The Dutch version is leading when discussions take place how to interpret the document.

accountants firm that complies with Art. 27, second paragraph	ASS accountants firm	public sector accountants department NA (also aav)	internal accountants department NA (also aav)
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NVKS – as approved by the Board Meeting on 8 November 2016

Regulations for Quality management systems (Nadere voorschriften kwaliteitssystemen (NVKS)), including reading guide

Regulations for Quality management systems										
The board of the “Nederlandse Beroepsorganisatie van Accountants” (NBA, Dutch professional body of professional accountants);										
Taking into consideration Article 24 of the <i>Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants</i> (Dutch Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants. Regulation with respect to Rules of Professional Conduct. (VGBA));										
Considering that Article 3 of the <i>Wet op het accountantsberoep</i> (Professional accountants Profession Act (Wab) requires the professional body to establish regulations to promote the proper conduct of the profession;										
Considering that the proper conduct of the profession is realised jointly by the individual professional accountant and the accountants unit, and that it is vital to establish a quality management system at the level of the accountants unit with the purpose of providing reasonable assurance that the persons involved in the conduct of an engagement or operations comply with the applicable laws and regulations;										
Has established the following regulations:										
Paragraph 1 General Provisions										
Article 1										
These regulations define the following concepts as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – a related services engagement: a related services engagement as referred to in the NV COS glossary of terms; – accountants department: unit within an organization in which an accountant conducts an NVKS engagement at the request of this organization; – accountants unit: accountants department or accountants practice; – accountants firm: organization in which an accountant conducts an NVKS engagement at the request of and external client; – accountants practice: accountants firm or accountants organization as referred to in Article 1, paragraph 1, part a of the ‘Wet toezicht accountantsorganisaties’ (Wta, Audit Firms Supervision Act); – professional accountants report: written report by a professional accountant as part of an assurance engagement (including audits and review engagements) or a related services engagement; – assurance engagement: an assurance engagement as referred to in the NV COS glossary of terms; – audit firm: audit firm as referred to in Article 1, part c, of the Wta; – NV COS glossary of terms: glossary of terms included in the NV COS; – ultimately responsible professional accountant: professional accountant who is responsible for the performance of an assurance engagement or a related services engagement subject to the NV COS, and who signs the professional accountants report; 										

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ultimately responsible professional: non-accountant at an accountants firm who is responsible for the performance of an engagement that is equivalent to an assurance engagement or a related services engagement subject to regulations other than the NV COS; – quality: degree to which quality standards are met; – quality ambition: the quality that the accountants unit pursues; – quality policy: policy in which the accountants unit's quality ambition is translated into quantifiable targets; – quality control decision maker: professional accountant responsible for the quality management system; – quality manager: person operationally responsible for the design, implementation and monitoring of the system of quality control; – quality management system: quality policy and system of quality control; – network: network as referred to in the NV COS glossary of terms; – NBA: <i>Nederlandse Beroepsorganisatie van Accountants</i> (NBA, Dutch professional body of professional accountants); – NV COS: <i>Nadere voorschriften controle- en overige standaarden</i> (Regulations audit- and other standards); – NKVS engagement: assurance engagement or related services engagement conducted by an ultimately responsible professional accountant subject to the NV COS, and equivalent engagements conducted by an ultimately responsible professional subject to regulations other than the NV COS; – engagement quality control reviewer; engagement quality control reviewers in accordance with in the NV COS glossary of terms; – engagement quality control; engagement quality control in accordance with in the NV COS glossary of terms; – engagement team: engagement team involved in the conduct of an NVKS engagement, in accordance with the NV COS glossary of terms; – reasonable assurance; high, but not absolute, level of assurance, as referred to in the NV COS glossary of terms; – system of quality control: a complete set of measures and procedures intended to realise the objectives stated in the quality policy in the accountants unit's work environment; – ViO: <i>Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten</i> (Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence (ViO)); – VGBA: <i>Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants</i> (Dutch Code of for Professional Accountants); – Wab: <i>Wet op het accountantsberoep</i> (Professional Accountants Profession Act); – Wta: <i>Wet toezicht accountantsorganisaties</i>, (Audit Firms Supervision Act). 										
Article 2										
These regulations apply to the quality control aspects of NVKS engagements, with exception of statutory audits as referred to in Article 1, part p, of the Wta										
Paragraph 2 Quality control decision maker										
Article 3										
1. The function of quality control decision maker exists in every accountants unit.										
2. A quality control decision maker:										

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. is policy maker in the accountants unit; b. possesses knowledge and experience pertaining to quality management systems; c. possesses the necessary authorization and sufficient authority within the accountants unit to conduct the tasks of the quality control decision maker. <p>3. In deviation from the second paragraph, part a, if none of the accountants within the accountants unit has been appointed as a policymaker, then another accountant is appointed as a quality control decision maker.</p>										
Article 4										
<p>1. The quality control decision maker is responsible for a quality management system that provides reasonable assurance that NVKS engagements are conducted in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.</p> <p>2. The quality management system referred to in the first paragraph t includes the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. determining and documenting a quality policy that complies at least with the requirements stipulated in paragraphs 4 and 5 of these regulations; b. the periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of the quality policy; c. identification of risks that may threaten the realisation of the objectives stated in the quality policy; d. designing, implementing and documenting a system of quality control that meets the objectives of the quality policy and manages the risks as referred to in part c; e. making information accessible and informing the persons involved in the conduct of the engagement or operations regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. the quality ambition; 2°. the quality policy; and 3°. the system of quality control; f. monitoring compliance with, and effectiveness of the system of quality control. <p>3. The quality control decision maker may, without prejudice to his responsibility, call on the support of others with sufficient knowledge and experience to conduct the duties assigned to the quality control decision maker.</p> <p>4. The quality control decision maker may, without prejudice to his responsibility, appoint a quality manager for the operational duties described in the second paragraph, parts c up to and including f.</p> <p>5. A quality manager as referred to in the fourth paragraph possesses knowledge and experience pertaining to the system of quality control which includes at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. knowledge of the accountants unit and the types of engagements it conducts; b. knowledge and experience pertaining to risk analysis and quality control; c. skills necessary to convert the quality policy objectives into measures and procedures; d. communication and social skills needed to implement and monitor the system of quality control at an accountants unit. <p>6. A quality control decision maker who does not appoint a quality manager possesses the knowledge and experience himself referred to in the fifth paragraph.</p> <p>7. The quality control decision maker ensures that the quality manager conducts his duties in accordance with these regulations.</p>										
Article 5										

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1. Before he accepts the position of quality control decision maker, he determines whether the accountants unit complies with the following preconditions:							
a. the accountants unit: 1°. has formulated a quality ambition; 2°. promotes an internal culture in which quality is an essential element of the conduct of an engagement and operations; 3°. only accepts clients for whom it has been determined that no available information would support the conclusion that the client do not have integrity; 4°. ensures that persons within and outside the accountants unit can communicate complaints and accusations regarding non-compliance with the quality management system, without endangering their legal status;							
b. inasmuch as such pertains to decisions directly or indirectly influencing the conduct of NVKS engagements, in an accountants firm that conducts assurance engagements by an ultimately responsible professional accountant subject to the NV COS, or equivalent engagements by an ultimately responsible professional subject to regulations other than the NV COS, the majority of the voting rights are held by: 1°. accountants practices; 2°. accountants firms; 3°. accountants or other natural persons in the possession of a declaration of professional competence, as referred to in article 54, first paragraph of the Wab.							
c. the day-to-day policy of an accountants firm that conducts assurance engagements by an ultimately responsible professional accountant subject to the NV COS, or equivalent engagements by an ultimately responsible professional subject to regulations other than the NV COS, is determined by a majority vote of: 1°. accountants practices; 2°. accountants firms; 3°. accountants or other natural persons in the possession of a declaration of professional competence, as referred to in article 54, first paragraph of the Wab.							
2. If the accountants firm's day-to-day policy as defined in the first paragraph, part c, is determined by two policymakers, then at least one of these policymakers complies with that requirement.							
3. If that the quality control decision maker determines that the accountants unit does not comply with the conditions, or no longer complies with the conditions, and that the accountants unit persists in non-compliance after notification by the quality control decision maker, then the quality control decision maker does not accept his position as defined in the first paragraph, or s resigns from his position and informs all ultimately responsible professional accountants and ultimately responsible professionals involved in the conduct of the engagement or operations of that fact.							
4. In exceptional circumstances, the board of the NBA may grant an exemption to the provisions of the first paragraph at request of the quality control decision maker, if the quality control decision maker can demonstrate that: a. none of the shareholders or other owners qualify as an accountants practice, audit firm, accountant or natural person as referred to in the first paragraph, part b, under 3°; b. the accountants firm devotes less than 10% of the annual revenue and less than 10% of the annual hours to assurance engagements or equivalent engagements as referred to in the first paragraph, part b; and							

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<p>c. other safeguards are present to ensure that accountants practices, audit firms, accountants or other natural persons referred to in the first paragraph, part b, under 3°, make the decisions that directly or indirectly influence the conduct of NVKS engagements. The exemption may be subject to conditions.</p> <p>5. The quality control decision maker who has been granted an exemption, and who knows or should know that a condition referred to in the fourth paragraph has not been complied with, or that actions have been taken in conflict with the exemption requirements, reports this to the board of the NBA within 6 weeks.</p> <p>6. An exemption as referred to in the fourth paragraph is no longer valid if the quality control decision maker does not report situations as referred to in the fifth paragraph.</p> <p>7. The board of the NBA may revoke an exemption as referred to in the fourth paragraph, or amend the conditions to which the exemption is subject to, if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the quality control decision maker has submitted a report as referred to in the fifth paragraph; the quality control decision maker requests an amendment or revocation; the board of the NBA determines that a condition referred to in the fourth paragraph has not been complied with, or that actions have been taken in conflict with the exemption conditions. 										
Paragraph 3 Ultimately responsible professional accountant, ultimately responsible professional, and accountant										
Article 6										
An ultimately responsible professional accountant may only conduct NVKS engagements if the accountants unit has:										
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> appointed a quality control decision maker; established a quality policy; and established a system of quality control. 										
Article 7										
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The quality control decision maker at an accountants firm appoints an ultimately responsible professional accountant to conduct engagements subject to regulations other than the NV COS which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> are equivalent to assurance engagements or related services engagements; and do not pertain to financial information, unless: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the conduct of these engagements has been allocated by or under law to the ultimately responsible professional's professional group; these engagements are conducted by an ultimately responsible professional who is a member of a professional body which is a full member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). The quality control decision maker ensures that this ultimately responsible professional who is not a member of a professional body which is a full member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), complies with the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> he has successfully passed an accredited exam of a degree whose level corresponds to a completed university degree or equivalent level, as referred to in Article 6 of the Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts, amending Directives 78/660/EEC and 83/349/EEC of the Council, including the revocation of Directive 84/253/EEC of the Council; 										

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. he has sufficient knowledge and experience of the profession and the regulations applicable to the engagements, as referred to in the first paragraph; c. he complies with the regulations for the proper conduct of the profession and of independence, where applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. The VGBA and ViO; or 2°. codes of conduct and independence regulations that are at least as demanding as the VGBA and the ViO, where relevant; d. he is a member of a professional group which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. tests the quality of the conduct of engagements; 2°. is subject to disciplinary law; 3°. prescribes continuing professional development. 																				
3. The quality control decision maker ensures that an ultimately responsible professional announces which are of knowledge and experience are used in the conduct of an engagement referred to in the first paragraph, and which rules are applied.																				
Article 8																				
1. As a member of the engagement team, an accountant is only involved in the conduct of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. an assurance engagement or related services engagement subject to the NV COS, if the engagement is conducted by an ultimately responsible accountant at an accountants unit. b. an engagement that is equivalent to an engagement as referred to in part a, and which is subject to regulations other than the NV COS, if the engagement is conducted by the ultimately responsible professional at an accountants firm. 																				
2. An accountant is only involved in the operations of an accountants unit if he does not have information that indicates that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the accountants unit; or b. another part of the network located in the Netherlands; an engagement as referred to in the first paragraph is conducted by an ultimately responsible professional accountant or an ultimately responsible professional to .																				
3. An accountant refrains from every action or failure which he knows or ought to know to be in conflict with these regulations.																				
Paragraph 4 Quality management system Requirements																				
Article 9																				
1. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. sufficient persons with the required professional competence are available to conduct NVKS engagements at the accountants unit, in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations; b. inasmuch as their role in the accountants unit makes such relevant, persons involved in the conduct of an engagement or operations possess: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. current knowledge of the system of quality control; 2°. current knowledge of laws and regulations; and 3°. the skills needed to apply the knowledge referred to under 1° and 2°; 																				

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<p>c. the duties and authorizations of the ultimately responsible professional accountant are documented.</p> <p>2. The quality control decision maker determines the disciplinary actions for categories of violations of the quality policy or system of quality control.</p> <p>3. If the accountants unit is not affiliated with a complaint or dispute committee, then the quality control decision maker establishes a complaint procedure for suspected violations of the quality policy or the system of quality control.</p>									
Article 10									
<p>1. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that:</p> <p>a. before accepting or continuing an NVKS engagement, an ultimately responsible professional accountant :</p> <p>1°. collects all information which may be relevant to the acceptance or continuance of the engagement;</p> <p>2°. considers the integrity of the client and determines that he has no information which would indicate that the client has no integrity;</p> <p>3°. determine that sufficient expertise, time and resources are available to conduct NVKS engagements in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations;</p> <p>4°. determine that the accountants unit and the engagement team can comply with the applicable ethics guidelines;</p> <p>b. an ultimately responsible professional accountant documents the evaluation of the decision to accept or continue the NVKS engagement;</p> <p>c. the name of an ultimately responsible professional accountant is known to the management body, and to the client's supervisory body, if applicable.</p> <p>2. The ultimately responsible professional accountant may utilise information previously obtained by the accountants unit in order to perform the tasks referred to in the first paragraph, part a, under 1° and 2°.</p>									
Article 11									
The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that: an ultimately responsible professional accountant will terminate or amend an NVKS engagement if information becomes known which, if it had been known at the moment of acceptance or continuance, would have led to the refusal to accept or continue the engagement in an amended form the current form.									
Article 12									
<p>1. The quality control decision maker assigns an ultimately responsible professional accountant or an ultimately responsible professional for every NVKS engagement.</p> <p>2. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that the person referred to in the first paragraph:</p> <p>a. is actively involved in the conduct of the NVKS engagement for which he is ultimately responsible;</p> <p>b. devotes sufficient time to the NVKS engagement;</p> <p>c. assigns sufficient personnel and resources to the NVKS engagement;</p>									

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<p>d. or another experienced member of the engagement team supervises and reviews the less experienced members of the team during the conduct of the NVKS engagement;</p> <p>e. investigates indications of fraud, in accordance with the requirements for the NVKS engagement and, where applicable, the legal obligations stipulated in the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Act (Wet ter voorkoming van witwassen en financieren van terrorisme (WWFT));</p> <p>f. documents the NVKS engagement in a structured manner, so that:</p> <p>1°. in any case, the relevant documentation requirements in the VGBA, the NV COS or other laws and regulations applicable to the engagement are complied with, as well as the ViO where applicable;</p> <p>2°. it is possible to exercise effective internal and external supervision;</p> <p>g. requests advice, if necessary, from an expert with regard to the NVKS engagement, whereby he:</p> <p>1°. asks advice on difficult or controversial issues, taking the engagement team's knowledge into consideration;</p> <p>2°. aligns the conclusions of the request for advice with the person consulted;</p> <p>3°. follows up on the conclusions as referred to in this part, under 2°;</p> <p>4°. documents the request for advice, conclusions and any follow-up actions in the engagement file;</p> <p>h. deals with and resolves any differences of opinion relevant to the NVKS engagement, whereby he:</p> <p>1°. documents the difference of opinion and the conclusions reached pertaining to the solution in the engagement file;</p> <p>2°. refrains from dating the professional accountants report until after the difference of opinion has been resolved;</p> <p>i. personally signs the professional accountants report resulting from the NVKS engagement;</p> <p>j. completes the final engagement file no later than two months after signing and dating of the professional accountants report.</p> <p>3. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that a person involved in the conduct of an engagement or operations of the accountants unit has information or inquiries of which he knows the confidential nature or reasonably should assume this, comply with the confidentiality requirements referred to in Article 16 of the VGBA</p>	Yellow	Green	Purple	Pink	Black	Grey
Article 13						
<p>1. The quality control decision maker establishes review criteria to determine whether an engagement quality control review is necessary.</p> <p>2. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that for engagements referred to in the first paragraph:</p> <p>a. an engagement quality control reviewer is assigned.</p> <p>b. the engagement quality control review is completed before the professional accountants report is dated.</p>	Yellow	Green	Purple	Pink	Black	Grey
Article 14						
<p>1. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that another ultimately responsible professional accountant or ultimately responsible professional will be assigned to conduct or complete an NVKS engagement on behalf of an ultimately responsible professional accountant or ultimately responsible professional who is unable to accurately conduct or complete the engagement.</p>	Red	Yellow	Green	Blue	Purple	Black

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2. If only one ultimately responsible professional accountant conducts NVKS engagements within the accountants unit, then he makes agreements with an accountant from outside the accountants unit to replace him, as referred to in the first paragraph.																				
Article 15																				
1. The quality control decision maker arranges a professional liability insurance policy which insures to a reasonable degree the risks of the conduct of the profession by:																				
a. an accountants firm; and																				
b. the persons involved in the conduct of the engagement or operations.																				
2. The professional liability insurance referred to in the first paragraph complies at least with the following requirements:																				
a. the insurance policy is purchased from an insurer which may be assumed to comply with reasonable requirements for solvency;																				
b. the policy offers annual coverage for at least twice the insured amount per claim;																				
c. the policy covers all activities conducted by the accountants firm and any affiliated accountants organizations, as referred to in Article 1, part a of the Wta, regardless of who submits the claim;																				
d. the own risk per claim does not endanger the solvency of the accountants firm;																				
e. the policy covers at least claims submitted in Europe;																				
f. the run-on and run-off risks are covered for a period of at least two years;																				
g. the policy covers the costs of legal assistance in the context of legal disputes.																				
3. The board of the NBA establishes the minimum height of the amounts to be insured, and the maximum deductible per claim, as referred to in the second paragraph, part d, which will be subject to the annual turnover.																				
4. The quality control decision maker evaluates at all times whether there are specific circumstances which make it necessary or desirable to purchase a policy with a higher coverage or lower deductible than that determined by the board of the NBA based on the third paragraph.																				
5. At the request of the quality control decision maker, the board of the NBA may grant an exemption to the provisions of the first paragraph, if the quality control decision maker can demonstrate that these provisions cannot reasonably be complied with based on acknowledged moral objections, and the purpose intended by the first paragraph can be achieved otherwise. The exemption may be subject to conditions.																				
6. An exemption may be revoked if the acknowledged moral objections no longer apply or actions have been taken in conflict with the exemption requirements.																				
Article 16																				
1. If the quality control decision maker at an accountants firm has assigned an ultimately responsible professional to conduct an NVKS engagement, he acts in accordance with the requirements in this paragraph, on the understanding that for:																				
1°. <<ultimately responsible professional accountant>> is read every time as: ultimately responsible professional;																				
2°. <<professional accountants report>> is read every time as: report resulting from the conduct of an NVKS engagement.																				
2. This article does not apply to Article 12, second paragraph, part i, and Article 14.																				
Paragraph 5 Additional requirements for quality management systems for assurance engagements																				

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Article 17									
This paragraph applies to:									
a. assurance engagements subject to the NV COS;									
b. engagements that are equivalent to assurance engagements as referred to in part a, and which are conducted by the ultimately responsible professional accountant subject to regulations other than the NV COS.									
Article 18									
The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that:									
a. persons involved in the conduct of an engagement or operations possess the relevant knowledge and skills, as referred to in Article 9, first paragraph, part b;									
b. ultimately responsible professional accountants and other accountants involved in the conduct of the engagement or operations have complied their requirements pertaining to continuing professional development.									
Article 19									
1. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that:									
a. the accountants unit does not maintain relations which may pose a threat to the independent conduct of engagements as referred to in Article 17;									
b. an ultimately responsible professional accountant will refuse or terminate an engagement as referred to in Article 17 if he cannot ensure the independent conduct of the engagement in accordance with the ViO.									
c. the accountants firm will not conduct an engagement as referred to in Article 17 on behalf of the owner of the accountants firm;									
d. the accountants unit will comply with Article 46 of the ViO with regard to the evaluation or compensation of a member of the engagement team;									
e. records are made of circumstances that are identified at the level of the accountants unit in support of the person who evaluates whether an engagement as referred to in Article 17 is conducted independently; and									
f. a systematic, accessible and current client administration is maintained, which records the following information for each client as referred to in Article 17:									
1°. the name, address and statutory location;									
2°. whether the client is a public interest entity;									
3°. the name of the ultimately responsible professional accountant for an engagement as referred to in Article 17;									
4°. the fee charged for engagements referred to in Article 17 for each period, as well as fees charged for other services provided.									
2. Whether a relationship may pose a threat to the independent conduct of an engagement as referred to in the first paragraph, part a, and whether a threat entails that the ultimately responsible professional accountant should refuse or terminate an engagement as referred to in the first paragraph, part b, is evaluated based on:									
a. that which an objective, reasonable and informed third party considers acceptable and sufficient; and									
b. the circumstances that the person who evaluates independence knows or should know.									

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<p>3. This article does not apply to relations between a part of the network located abroad or a person connected thereto and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. a related third party located abroad; or b. a person related to a third party located abroad, <p>if it is determined and recorded that identification and assessment of a threat due to those relations is performed and a safeguard is applied in accordance with rules that are at least as demanding as the Code of Ethics of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants.</p>									
<p>Article 20</p>									
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that if an engagement quality control review of an engagement as referred to in Article 17 is conducted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the ultimately responsible professional accountant: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. provides the engagement quality control reviewer with relevant documents and information; 2°. discusses with the engagement quality control reviewer the significant circumstances that have come to light during the conduct of the engagement, including issues which were determined during the engagement quality control review; b. The engagement quality control reviewer bases the scope of the engagement quality control review on the nature and scope of the engagement, and documents his considerations. c. the engagement quality control reviewer conducts an objective evaluation of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. the significant judgments of the engagement team; and 2°. the conclusions reached when formulating the proposed professional accountants report; d. the engagement quality control reviewer records: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1°. that the engagement quality control review has been conducted in accordance with the system of quality control; 2°. that the engagement quality control review has been completed in a timely manner and in accordance with Article 13, second paragraph; and 3°. his conclusion pertaining to the results formulated by the ultimately responsible professional accountant in the proposed professional accountants report. 2. The evaluation referred to in the first paragraph, part c entails the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. discussion of significant matters with the ultimately responsible professional accountant; b. review of the subject matter and the proposed professional accountants report; c. review of selected documentation pertaining to the significant judgments of the engagement team and the conclusions reached; and d. evaluation as to whether the proposed professional accountants report is appropriate. 3. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that an engagement quality control review occurs during audit engagements of financial statements at public interest entities. 4. The quality control decision maker organizes the quality management system in such a way that it provides reasonable assurance that an engagement quality control reviewer who conducts an engagement quality control review for an engagement at a public interest entity as referred to in the third paragraph: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. evaluates how the ultimately responsible professional accountant has ensured the independent conduct of the the engagement; b. determines that suitable requests for advice as referred to in Article 12, second paragraph, under g, have been made, and that the conclusions provided have been evaluated; 									

accountants firm that complies with Art. 27, second paragraph	ASS accountants firm	public sector accountants department NA (also aav)	internal accountants department NA (also aav)
NA (AAV) accountants firm	accountants department that complies with Art. 27, second paragraph	ASS public sector accountants department	ASS internal accountants department

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c. evaluates whether the selected documentation is a realistic representation of the procedures performed with regard to significant judgments, and whether these supports the conclusions reached.									
Article 21									
If the quality control decision maker at an accountants firm has assigned an ultimately responsible professional to conduct an NVKS engagement, he acts in accordance with the provisions in this paragraph, on the understanding that for:									
a. <<ultimately responsible professional accountant>> is read every time as: ultimately responsible professional;									
b. <<professional accountants report>> is read every time as: report resulting from the conduct of an NVKS engagement;									
c. <<in accordance with the ViO>> is read every time as: in accordance with independence regulations that are at least as demanding as the ViO .									
Paragraph 6 Quality Control									
Article 22									
1. In the implementation of Article 4, second paragraph, part f, the quality manager evaluates on at least an annual basis whether the system of quality control:									
a. is relevant and sufficient;									
b. is complied with at the engagement level, through file reviews, in which a completed file for each ultimately responsible professional accountant is investigated periodically.									
2. The quality manager:									
a. documents the evaluation referred to in the first paragraph;									
b. processes the results of the evaluation referred to in the first paragraph in the system of quality control, or suggests improvements to the quality policy to the quality control decision maker;									
c. registers violations referred to in Article 9, second paragraph;									
d. advises the quality control decision maker on the application of possible disciplinary actions as referred to in Article 9, second paragraph, against the persons who have committed violations, especially against those who do so repeatedly;									
e. registers the disciplinary actions;									
f. communicates the results of the evaluation referred to in the first paragraph within the accountants unit each year, thereby at least paying attention to the systematic, repetitive or other important imperfections, and the actions taken to deal with these imperfections;									
g. evaluates the effectiveness of the changes and improvements implemented in the system of quality control and the quality policy, and the disciplinary actions referred to in part e.									
Article 23									
1. The quality control decision maker deals with complaints pertaining to suspected violations as referred to in Article 9, third paragraph.									
2. The quality manager:									
a. advises the quality control decision maker regarding the careful processing of complaints pertaining to suspected violations;									

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b. registers complaints and the processing of complaints.																			
Article 24																			
The quality manager ensures that an ultimately responsible professional accountant who is involved in a disciplinary proceedings initiated by a party other than the client informs the management of the client as soon as possible, and keeps them updated as to the processing of the complaint.																			
Article 25																			
1. The quality manager archives the following for at least seven years, unless otherwise specified by or under law: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the record of the quality policy and the system of quality control as referred to in Article 4, second paragraph, parts a and d, after they are no longer valid; b. the evaluation of the quality policy and the system of quality control, referred to in Article 22, first paragraph, after it is recorded; c. the registration of violations and disciplinary actions referred to in Article 22, second paragraph, parts c and e, after it is recorded; d. the registration of complaints and the processing of complaints referred to in Article 23, part b, after it is recorded; e. engagement files, after they are completed. 2. At the moment that an accountants unit ceases to exist, the quality manager ensures that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. engagement files are archived in accordance with the first paragraph, beginning and part e; b. the confidentiality of the information in engagement files is safeguarded; c. engagement files during the retention period, referred to in the first paragraph, are accessible to the ultimately responsible professional accountant and other accountants who were involved in the conduct of the engagement. 																			
Article 26																			
If the quality control decision maker at an accountants firm has assigned an ultimately responsible professional to conduct an NVKS engagement, he or the quality control manager act in accordance with the requirements in this paragraph, on the understanding that <<ultimately responsible professional accountant>> is read every time as: ultimately responsible professional.																			
Paragraph 7 Limited requirements for small accountants units																			
Article 27																			
1. In deviation from Article 4, second paragraph, parts a and d, the provisions of section 4 and 5 of these regulations, with exception of Articles 7, 8, 14 and 15, may be omitted or applied limitedly, if they are irrelevant to the conduct of the engagement or operations of an accountants unit due to the nature and extent of the accountants unit.																			
2. Articles 3, 4, 5, first paragraph, beginning and part c, 5, second and third paragraph, 6, 9 up to and including 13, and 16 up to and including 23 do not apply if no more than two ultimately responsible professional accountants or one ultimately responsible professional accountant and one ultimately responsible professional are employed within an accountants unit, and in addition to these two individuals, no more than five people are involved in the conduct of the engagement or operations, provided that an ultimately responsible professional accountant:																			

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a. ensures in some other way that the requirement in Article 4, first paragraph that NVKS engagements are conducted in accordance with applicable laws and regulations is complied with,; and										
b. each year the accountants unit performs at least:										
1°. an evaluation of the quality ambition and the manner in which he has ensured that NVKS engagements are conducted in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations;										
2°. a discussion of the evaluation as referred to in 1° with an accountant from outside the accountants unit, who possesses expertise and experience pertaining to quality control; and										
3°. he evaluation as referred to in 1°, as well as recording the results of the discussion as referred to in 2°.										
3. In the quality control under the regime referred to in the second paragraph, the ultimately responsible professional accountant acts in accordance with Articles 5, first paragraph, beginning and parts a and b, 7, 14, 15, and 24 up to and including 26.										
Paragraph 8 Transitional and final provisions										
Article 28										
The following regulations have been revoked:										
a. Temporary Regulations for Quality management systems;										
b. Regulations for Accountants Firms - assurance engagements (NVAK-ass), approved by the board of the Nederlands Orde van Accountants-Administratieconsulenten (NOvAA);										
c. Regulations for Accountants firms - assurance engagements (NVAK-ass), approved by the board of the Nederlands Instituut van Registeraccountants (NIVRA);										
d. Regulations for Accountants firms - related services engagements (NVAK-aav), approved by the board of the Nederlands Orde van Accountants-Administratieconsulenten (NOvAA);										
e. Regulations for Accountants firms - related services engagements (NVAK-aav), approved by the board of the Nederlands Instituut van Registeraccountants (NIVRA);										
Article 29										
1. These regulations are effective on 1 January 2017, and will be applied starting on 1 January 2018.										
2. In deviation from the first paragraph, Article 28 are effective on 1 January 2018.										
3. These regulations may be applied as a whole starting on 1 January 2017, in which case the regulations referred to in Article 28 will not apply.										
Article 30										
These regulations are referred to as: Regulations for Quality management systems (<i>Nadere voorschriften kwaliteitsystemen</i> , or NVKS).										

Koninklijke Nederlandse
Beroepsorganisatie
van Accountants



Postbus 7984
1008 AD Amsterdam
Antonio Vivaldistraat 2-8
1083 HP Amsterdam
T 020 301 03 01
nba@nba.nl
www.nba.nl