



### Ruth Picker

Partner  
APAC Risk Management Leader,  
Area Executive Member

### Contact information

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### Industry

Telecommunications, Banking,  
Music

### Certifications

B.A., F.C.A., FSIA, FCPA

### Memberships and Affiliations

CPA Australia  
Institute of Chartered  
Accountants Australia  
FINSIA  
Australian Institute of Company  
Directors  
APRA / AMCOS

## Summary Biography

Ruth was born and educated in Cape Town, South Africa where she studied classical piano and composition, sparking her love for song writing from an early age. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts she then studied to become an accountant as a route to leave South Africa. And as her corporate career flourished, her love for music creation and poetry would take a backseat.

Ruth's corporate career has comprised a long relationship with the firm Ernst & Young (EY), where she is the Asia-Pacific Risk Management Leader and a member of EY's Asia-Pacific D&I Committee. She has held many voluntary committee positions both in Australia and internationally and is a strong advocate for women's leadership and diversity and inclusion more broadly.

In 2013, armed with life's experiences and triggered by personal tragedy, Ruth returned to song writing for the first time in almost 30 years. She remembered and scored all of her old songs.

Through the re-discovery of her old material, Ruth's passion for music and lyrics re-emerged in the form of The Song Tailors, a creative collaboration that would weave music and true stories together. The Song Tailors was created by Ruth as a platform for emerging artists at the same time as enabling her music to be heard. Ruth writes both the music and the lyrics. She also composes classical music.  
<https://www.thesongtailors.com>

## Detailed CV

Ruth has 33 years' experience with Ernst & Young.

Her current position is Asia-Pacific Risk Management Leader, based in Melbourne, responsible for enterprise-wide risk management for EY in the Asia-Pacific Area. In this capacity she is a member of the Asia-Pacific Area Executive Leadership team. She is also a member of EY's Global Risk Management Executive. She is also a member of EY's Global Practice Group which comprises partners in leadership positions from around the world.

Prior to this she was Global Leader - Global International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Services, part of Global Professional Practice, based in London, for four years. In this role she was responsible for the operations of Ernst & Young's global IFRS infrastructure, including liaising with the firm's Area IFRS Leaders and ensuring consistency of application of IFRS within the EY network. She was also responsible for developing and implementing the firm's global strategy around IFRS.

She was a member of Ernst & Young's IFRS Policy Committee for nine years. The global IFRS Policy Committee meets frequently to determine Ernst & Young's global positions on IFRS interpretations.

Prior to this she was the Managing Partner of Ernst & Young Melbourne, Oceania Leader in Climate Change and Sustainability Services while also holding a senior IFRS partner role in the Australian firm. Ruth has served as a senior technical and client service partner on numerous clients including a number of SEC registrants. She assisted many clients in their transition to IFRS.



Ruth has had prior management experience within Ernst & Young. She was a member of Ernst & Young's Board of Partners, having been elected by her fellow partners to a 12-person Board. She was one of two females on that Board and served as a Board member for five years, prior to her departure for London.

While she is best known publicly for her IFRS expertise, Ruth's experience combines a unique mix of strategic, risk management, auditing, financial reporting and corporate governance expertise, together with experience in working with listed company directors at the highest level. She has financial services and telecommunications industry experience. Her personal attributes include strong communication skills, timely and excellent client service and the ability to build effective teams and to work within multiple teams.

### External Roles

Ruth was a member of the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) as Ernst & Young's Global representative, completing her maximum 6-year term in June 2012. IFRIC is the official interpretative arm of the International Accounting Standards Board. During her term, Ruth was the only Australian on the IFRIC.

She was a frequent speaker and published author on accounting issues. She now speaks on risk management, diversity and inclusion, music and leadership topics.

Ruth was Deputy Chair of the Australian Accounting Standards Board for many years and during that time she oversaw the adoption of IFRS in Australia.

In 2004 she co-authored a ground-breaking university text, "Applying International Accounting Standards", published by John Wiley & Sons. A third edition was published in 2012. Under the name of The Song Tailors she has published two EP's, 11 songs in total thus far.

During her career Ruth has served voluntarily on numerous not-for-profit Boards and Committees. She currently serves as a member of the Mount Scopus Foundation Executive Committee.

### Awards

In November 2000, Ruth was awarded the inaugural "Lynne Sutherland Award" – an Ernst & Young award created to recognise those people at Ernst & Young who contribute to the development and retention of women and who support and enhance the ability of Ernst & Young to attract and retain talented people.

In 2007 Ruth was awarded the Charles Holmes Medal by CPA Australia in recognition of her contribution to the accounting profession in Australia.