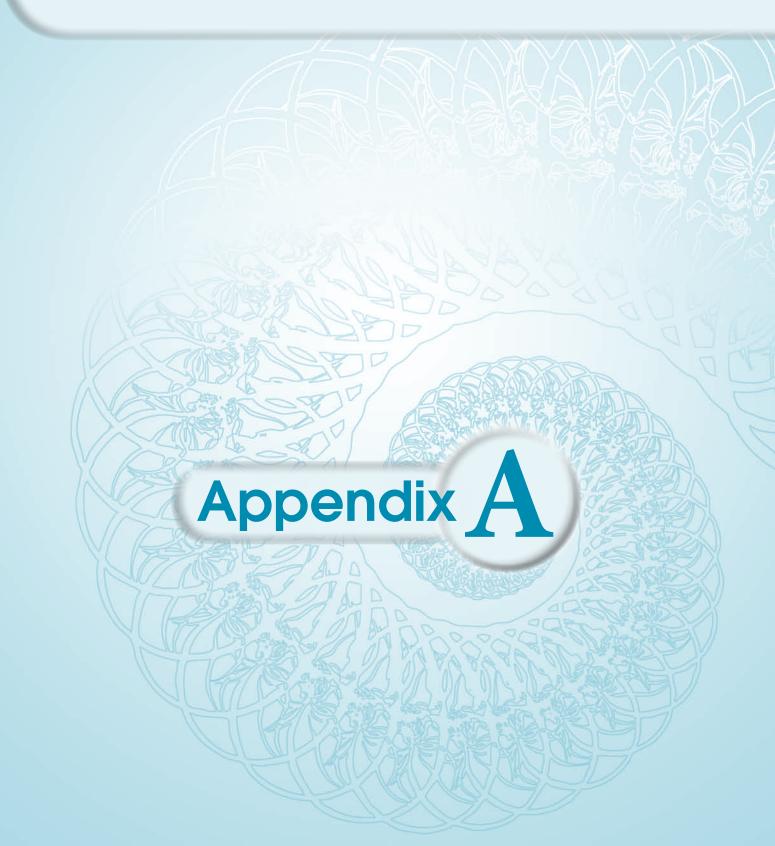
## Acknowledgements





# **Appendix A**

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TIMSS is a major undertaking of IEA, and together with PIRLS (Progress in International Reading Literacy Study), comprises the core of IEA's regular cycle of studies. IEA has delegated responsibility for the overall direction and management of these two projects to the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study at Boston College. Headed by Michael O. Martin and Ina V.S. Mullis, the study center is located in the Lynch School of Education. In carrying out these two ambitious international studies, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center works closely with the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam, the IEA Data Processing and Research Center in Hamburg, Statistics Canada in Ottawa, and Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey. Especially important is close coordination with the National Research Coordinators designated by the participating countries to be responsible for the complex tasks involved in implementing the studies in their countries. In summary, it takes extreme dedication on the part of many individuals around the world to make TIMSS a success and the work of these individuals across all of the various activities involved is greatly appreciated.

With each new assessment cycle of a study, one of the most important tasks is to update the assessment frameworks. Updating the TIMSS assessment frameworks for 2011 began in September of 2008, and has involved extensive input and reviews by individuals at the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, the IEA, the TIMSS 2011 National Research Coordinators, and the two TIMSS expert committees—the TIMSS 2011 Science and Mathematics Item Review Committee and the TIMSS 2011 Questionnaire Item

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The Science and Mathematics Item Review Committee (SMIRC) worked with staff from the International Study Center in developing all aspects of the frameworks and particularly the *TIMSS 2011 Mathematics Framework* and the *TIMSS 2011 Science Framework*. They made recommendations for the content and cognitive domains, as well as the topic areas and objectives.

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The TIMSS 2011 Questionnaire Item Review Committee (QIRC) is comprised of TIMSS 2011 National Research Coordinators who have special responsibility for participating in the development of the contextual framework and background questionnaires for TIMSS 2011.

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