IPSASB International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board®

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Meeting:	International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board	**Agenda Item 4**	For: ☐ Approval ☒ Discussion ☒ Information
Meeting Location:	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates		
Meeting Date:	December 10–13 2019		

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON THE WORK PROGRAM

Objective of Agenda Item

1. To receive the Technical Director's report on the work program.
2. To highlight changes to the work program subsequent to the September 2019 meeting on Day One of this meeting, and to discuss the work program in-depth on Day One and, further in the light of developments at the meeting on Day Four.

Material(s) Presented

Agenda Item 4.1	IPSASB Work Program: September 2019
Agenda Item 4.2	Indicative Time Allocations March-December 2020

Annual Review of the Work Program

3. This is the third annual in-depth-review of the work program. The in-depth review takes place at the last IPSASB meeting of the year.
4. The Technical Director, Chair, Deputy Director and staff have reviewed the work program, taking into account developments and their impact, including the issues expected to arise in each project. Where projects are dependent on decisions in other projects, the scheduling of projects reflects those dependencies.
5. With the exception of Leases, the work program assumes that IPSASB proposals and preliminary views (PVs) in consultation papers and proposals in exposure drafts (EDs) are generally supported by respondents. Apart from Leases the work program adopts a "best case" scenario, which assumes that there will be no re-exposure of proposals. Unless the IPSASB decides to retain IPSAS 13, *Leases,* it is highly probable that the Leases project will require one or more further EDs. The Leases project is discussed in more detail in paragraph 12 and in Agenda Item 9.
6. For major projects, such as Revenue and Measurement, the analysis assumes that there will be four meetings between initial discussion of responses to EDs and approval of a pronouncement.
7. The work program assumes that there is a full staff complement. Currently there are eight technical staff and consultancy support provided by a senior adviser. The technical staff are supported by the Head of Administration and Events and an Administrative Assistant. The current Technical Director will move to half time working on April 1st, 2020 after stepping down from his current role. One of the Principals will be on paternity leave for February and much of March. This has been factored into the projections for the Measurement project. IPSASB is also actively recruiting for a further Manager,

Standards Development and Technical Projects. Any delays in recruitment or staffing changes are likely to result in delays to one or more projects.

8. Agenda items are scheduled for all meetings unless the meeting is during a consultation period. It may be necessary to reduce the number of projects discussed at some meetings in order to manage both the agenda and staff resources.

Summary of Changes agreed at September 2019 Meeting

9. Following approval of the Application Guidance on Collective and Individual Services at the September 2019 meeting that project has been removed from the work program.

In-Depth Review of the Work Plan at the December 2019 meeting

10. The Chair, the Technical Director, and staff, have reviewed the individual projects in the work program. The following section evaluates each of the projects to support a detailed discussion on Day Four taking into account developments at this meeting.

Public Sector Financial Instruments

11. ED 69, *Public Sector Financial Instruments*, was issued in August 2019 with a consultation period ending on December 31st, 2019. The initial review of responses is currently scheduled for March 2020 with approval scheduled for September. Subject to issues raised by respondents at consultation this timeline is still viable.

Leases

12. Recent work programs presented two potential approaches dependent on whether the IPSASB continues with the dual 'right of use' model proposed in ED 64 or decides to develop an alternative approach. Under the former scenario a final pronouncement was projected for approval in March 2020; under the latter scenario a second ED was projected for approval in March 2020. These projections are clearly no longer realistic. Even if the IPSASB were to endorse the dual 'right of use' model it is probable that there would be significant modifications necessitating a further ED. The work program appended to this report notes that a discussion of options including retention of IPSAS 13, *Leases* will take place at this meeting. When a decision is taken on direction a time line will be determined.

Revenue and Transfer Expenses

13. ED 70, *Revenue with Performance Obligations*, ED 71, *Revenue with Performance Obligations* and ED 72, *Transfer Expenses* are scheduled for approval at this meeting. Final pronouncements are projected for September 2021.

Measurement

14. The Consultation Paper*, Measurement*, which included an illustrative ED was issued on April 30, 2019 with a consultation period ending on September 30, 2019. The first high level review of responses will take place at this meeting. A formal ED is projected for September 2020 and a final pronouncement for December 2021.

Infrastructure Assets and Heritage

15. Time allocations for both these projects at the December 2019 meeting have been restricted in order to prioritize the review and approval of EDs 70-72 (see above). As a result, approval of an ED has been put back to September 2020 with a final pronouncement scheduled for December 2021.

Natural Resources and Limited Scope Review of the Conceptual Framework

16. Project briefs for these two committed projects will be considered at the March 2020 meeting when timelines will be agreed. The Consultative Advisory Group considered Natural Resources at its June 2019 meeting and is scheduled to consider the Limited Scope Review of the Conceptual Framework at the December 2019 meeting.

Improvements

17. Improvements are issued annually. Improvements to IPSAS 2019 is up for approval at this meeting. An ED for the next set of annual Improvements is scheduled for approval in June 2020.

Mid-Term Work Period Consultation

18. The IPSASB has committed to a mid-period work program consultation in 2021. Following a discussion with the CAG in June 2020 this will be approved in December 2020 and issued in early 2021.

Indicative Agenda Time Allocations (March 2020–September 2020)

19. Agenda Item 4.2 provides the indicative time allocations for the next three meetings, based on the proposed work program. This is provided to assist members in planning for future meetings. However, changes to the indicative time allocations will be required if there are amendments to the work program.

Questions for the IPSASB

20. The IPSASB is asked to review the work program on Day One and carry out a further review in the light of developments at this meeting on Day Four, and to agree any changes to the work program.

IPSASB WORK PROGRAM: DECEMBER 2019

Project/ Initiative	Links	Dec 2019 (CAG)	Mar 2020	Jun 2020 (CAG)	Sep 2020	Dec 2020 (CAG)	Mar 2021	Jun 2021 (CAG)	Sep 2021	Dec 2021 (CAG)
A Public Sector Specific Financial Instruments	C, D	RR	RR	RR/DI **CAG**	IP					
B Leases[1]	C	DI*	DI							
C Revenue										
(i) Revenue with Performance Obligations	A, B, D, H	ED **CAG**				RR/DI **CAG**	RR/DI	RR/DI	IP	
(ii) Revenue without Performance Obligations [IPSAS 23 update]		ED **CAG**				RR/DI **CAG**	RR/DI	RR/DI	IP	
D Transfer Expenses	A, B, C	ED **CAG**				RR/DI **CAG**	RR/DI	RR/DI	IP	
E Measurement	F, G, H	DI/RR **CAG**	DI/ED	DI/ED **CAG**	ED		RR	RR/DI	DI	IP
F Infrastructure Assets	E, G	DI	DI	DI/ED	ED		RR	RR/DI	DI	IP
G Heritage	E, F	DI	DI	DI/ED	ED		RR	RR/DI	DI	IP
H Natural Resources	E		PB	Project time line to be determined						
I Limited Scope Review of the Conceptual Framework		**CAG**	PB	Project time line to be determined						
J Improvements		IP		ED		IP		ED		IP
K Mid-term Work Program Consultation				**CAG**	DI	CP	WPC			
L IPSASB Handbook			Publish				Publish			

* At the December 2019 meeting the Board will discuss the strategic direction for the Leases Project regarding IPSAS 13, *Leases,* ED 64, and IFRS 16, *Leases* in relation to the development of a final pronouncement.

Prepared by: John Stanford (November 2019)

Key:

IP = Final Standard or Amendments to IPSAS(s); RP = Final Recommended Practice Guidance; ED = Approval of Exposure Draft; RE = Research; PB = Project Brief; DI = Discussion of Issues; RR = Review Responses; CP = Consultation Paper; WPC = Work Program Consultation; **CAG = Consultative Advisory Group Meeting**; PI = Public Interest Committee Meeting; SB = Staff Background Paper; ST = Final Strategy and Work Program;

Approvals Key:

PB = Approval of Project Brief

CP = Approval of Consultation Paper

ED = Approval of Exposure Draft

IP = Approval of Final Standard or Amendments to IPSAS(s)

CF = Approval of Conceptual Framework

RP = Approval of Final Recommended Practice Guidance

ST = Approval of Final Strategy and Work Program

WPC = Work Program Consultation

December 2019

EXPECTED CONSULTATIONS DURING THE NEXT YEAR

Project details	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2020
Improvements to IPSAS, 2019 (Exposure Draft) Approved at the June 2019 meeting and issued in July 2019												
Public Sector Specific Financial Instruments (Exposure Draft) Approved at the June 2019 meeting and issued in August 2019	◆	—	●									
Revenue with Performance Obligations (Exposure Draft) Approval expected at the December 2019 meeting						◆	···	···	···	···	●	
Revenue without Performance Obligations (Update of IPSAS 23) (Exposure Draft) Approval expected at the December 2019 meeting						◆	···	···	···	···	●	
Expenses: Transfer Expenses (Exposure Draft) Approval expected at the December 2019 meeting						◆	···	···	···	···	●	
Improvements (Exposure Draft) **Approval expected at the June 2020 meeting**									◆	···	···	●

Key: ◆—● Consultation document published (dates confirmed) ◆···● Consultation document not yet approved (dates not known, consultation period indicative)

December 2019

PROJECTS COMPLETED AND/OR PUBLISHED DURING 2019-23 STRATEGY AND WORK PROGRAM PERIOD

Project	Date Issued
Collective and Individual Services, (Amendments to IPSAS 19)	Approved September 2019
IPSAS 42, *Social Benefits*	January 2019
Amendments to IPSAS 36, Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures, and IPSAS 41, Financial Instruments	January 2019

INDICATIVE AGENDA TIME ALLOCATIONS (MARCH 2020–JUNE 2020)

Project	**March 2020 (Hours)**	**June 2020 (Hours)**
Standing Items (Governance, Technical Director's Report, Outreach, Feedback, Closed Session etc.)	3	3
Leases	4	4
Revenue	-	-
Transfer Expense	-	-
Measurement	4	4
Infrastructure Assets	3	2
Heritage	3	2
Public Sector Financial Instruments	4	3
Improvements	-	1
Natural Resources	2	3
Limited Scope Review of Conceptual Framework	1	2
TOTAL	**24**	**24**