



**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF ACCOUNTANTS**

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**Agenda Item**  
**10**

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**DATE:** August 27, 2009  
**MEMO TO:** Members of the IPSASB  
**FROM:** Stephenie Fox  
**SUBJECT:** IMF-IPSASB Joint Task Force Update

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As highlighted at the February and May IPSASB meetings the joint task force between the IMF and IPSASB has been established.

Members of the task force include:

- Mike Hathorn
- Andreas Bergmann
- Ian Carruthers
- Tadashi Sekikawa
- Bob Dacey
- Abdul Khan
- Sagé DeClerck

Staff support from the IPSASB is being provided by John Stanford and Stephenie Fox.

**ACTIVITIES TO DATE:**

The terms of reference of the task force have been included as agenda item 10.xx. In discussions with IMF personnel in DC in May, it was determined that meetings should be established with officials from 5-6 countries, including ideally officials from the central banks.

To date the following meetings and activities have been undertaken:

- Meeting with US government treasury/Federal reserve/FDIC (July 27-28)
- Meeting with UK Treasury /Bof E (August 13-14)
- Meeting with Switzerland Department of Finance/Swiss National Bank (August 28)
- Meeting with Germany/Bundesbank (September 1-2)
- Japan government (written -August 2009)

At this IPSASB meeting members will receive a report on the meetings held and the outcomes to date. An indicative workplan has been developed to progress the written documentation arising from the meetings. There will be no externally published report but rather the information will be used internally by both the IPSASB and the IMF. As

noted previously the IPSASB expects that much of the information gathered will be significant for the conceptual framework project. The IMF intends to use the information to provide input to their G20 report.

**IMF/IPSASB TASK FORCE**

Indicative Workplan

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Meeting with US government treasury/Federal reserve/FDIC	Dacey, <b>Stanford</b> , Khan, DeClerck	July 27 <sup>th</sup> -28
Meeting with UK Treasury /Bof E	Carruthers, Stanford, <b>Khan</b>	August 13-14
Meeting with Switzerland Department of Finance/Swiss National Bank	Bergmann, Khan	August 28
Meeting with Germany/Bundesbank	Bergmann, Berger, Khan	September 1-2
“Meeting” with Japan government (written)	Sekikawa	August 2009
Update to IPSASB	Fox/Stanford/Khan	September 11, 2009
Draft document summarizing results	Fox/Khan	October 31, 2009
Review by task force members	Hathorn/Dacey/Bergmann/Carruthers/Sekikawa/Khan/De Clerck	November 21, 2009
Finalization of written documentation for distribution internally to IPSASB/IMF		December 15, 2009

Summary of meetings to be prepared as soon as feasible subsequent to each meeting – reviewed by IPSASB staff/IMF staff and task force

**TERMS OF REFERENCE—IPSASB/IMF TASK FORCE**

Objectives:

- To learn how governments are intending to deal with assets, obligations, and commitments acquired as a result of their actions in response to the financial crisis, and comment/contribute to their thinking.
- To learn how the application of the existing accounting standards reports the variety of government actions in response to the financial crisis, and identify the need for any improvements.
- To discuss the reporting and valuation approaches.

To do this, the task force would seek to understand the accounting and reporting of selected countries, including identifying how these countries will report the various forms of government assistance, including loans, equity investments, purchase of toxic assets, and guarantees under their respective frameworks. Government actions undertaken through the central bank and/or special purpose entities should be part of the review, and the issue of consolidated financial reporting should be examined. It is understood that most governments have not yet reported, so this is an opportunity to openly discuss the current thinking.

The group will facilitate debates about why reporting might be different between jurisdictions, ideally with the governments together and engaging face to face. Comparing country practices will be important, including differences in treatment on statistical basis, which is one of the reasons the IMF's participation is key.