

IPSASB Communication and Liaison Activities

IPSASB Regional Outreach and Relationship Building September – December 2009	
REGION	SPECIFIC OUTREACH TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF IPSASB
<p>AFRICA & THE MIDDLE-EAST</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every other week, Tel-Aviv, Israel – Ad hoc team meetings with Representatives from government ministries and from Professional Practice Departments of Israel's leading Accounting Firms for the purpose of completing the adoption of IPSAS (Arad) • 9/30 Jerusalem, Israel – Discussion with the Government Statistician and the Central Bureau of Statistics Management regarding the implementation of IPSAS 23, “Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions (Taxes and Transfers)” (Izkovich) • 10/12 Jerusalem, Israel – Discussion with all Ministries on Accountant General regulation concerning the obligatory appointment of external auditor in every government ministry for the purpose of issuing audited financial statement based on IPSAS (Izkovich) • 10/14 Beirut, Lebanon – IPSAS presentation to Ministry of Finance and other government officials of the Republic of Iraq (van Schaik) • 10/18 Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation and discussion with Ministry of Construction and Housing - CEO's and management regarding IPSAS adoption and audited financial statements (Izkovich) • 10/20 – Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation and discussion with all Ministries in the government of Israel. Civil Service Commission approval of a new position in all Government Ministries for "Chief Accountant" responsible for the adoption of IPSAS in the ministries financial statements (Izkovich) • 10/21-22 Haifa, Israel – Discussion of updates and developments in the adoption of IPSAS in the Israeli Government Financial Reports at Ministries Accountants Professional Forum (Izkovich) • 10/21, 28 Nairobi, Kenya – Consultative meetings with Big 4 accountancy firms on <i>The Way Forward for IPSASs in the Region</i> (Owuor) • 11/1 Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation and discussion regarding IPSAS adoption and audited financial statements with Presentation and discussion regarding IPSAS adoption and audited financial statements (Izkovich) • 11/4-6 Nairobi, Kenya – Presentations at International Public Sector Accounting Standards Conference on <i>Accountability as a Driver for Social-Economic Development</i> (150 participants from Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia, Nigeria, South Africa, Malawi, Switzerland, Canada, Uganda, Belgium, Tanzania, Krgyz Republic, Lesotho Cameroon) (Bergmann, Swart, Muller-Marques Berger, Owuor, Salole)

**IPSASB Regional Outreach and Relationship Building
September – December 2009**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/4-6 Nairobi, Kenya – Round table discussion on <i>Cash Basis IPSAS</i> at IPSAS Conference (Swart) • 11/4-6 Nairobi, Kenya – Presentation on <i>Adoption of IPSASs: Policy Considerations</i> at IPSAS Conference (Swart) • 11/5 Nairobi, Kenya - Presentation on <i>Financial Reporting (Local and Central Government)/Cash Basis IPSAS</i> at the conference on IPSASs Conference – Accountability as a Driver for Social-Economic Development (Müller-Marqués Berger) • 11/10 Pretoria, South Africa – ASB meeting (Bergmann) • 11/11 Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation to Israel Knesset (Parliament) Research and Information Center regarding IPSAS adoption in the Israeli Government Financial Reports (Izkovich) • 11/12 Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation and discussion with the CEO's and management of the Administration for Rural Education & Youth – Aliyah – regarding IPSAS adoption and audited financial statements (Izkovich) • 11/15 Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation and discussion with the CFO's and management of the Accountant General Board with The Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Justice regarding IPSAS adoption and audited financial statements (Izkovich) • 11/17 Jerusalem, Israel – Presentation to Israeli Public Sector CFOs Forum regarding IPSAS adoption in the Israeli Government Financial Reports (Izkovich) • 11/18 Jerusalem, Israel – Discussion with Ministries Accountants Professional Forum of updates and developments in the adoption of IPSAS in the Israeli Government Financial Reports (Izkovich) • 11/18 Tel-Aviv, Israel – Panel Member Institute of Internal Auditors Organization and Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Israel annual conference on IPSAS adoption and audited financial statements in the Israeli Government (Izkovich) • 11/26 Zanzibar, Tanzania – Presentation on <i>Audit Committees in a New Era of Governance Seminar</i> – Public Sector (65 participants – awareness of IPSASs) (Owuor) • 12/2 Jerusalem, Israel – Discussion of updates and developments in the adoption of IPSAS in the Israeli Government Financial Reports at Ministries Accountants Professional Forum (Izkovich)
<p style="text-align: center;">ASIA</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/4 Tokyo, Japan – Presentation to voluntary group of CPAs (Sekikawa) • 11/14 Tokyo, Japan – Lecture at Chuo University (Graduate School) (Sekikawa)

IPSASB Regional Outreach and Relationship Building
September – December 2009

**AUSTRALIA AND
OCEANIA**



- Sept–Dec. Melbourne, Australia – Monthly meetings of AASB for public sector matters (Batten)
- 9/2 Wellington, New Zealand – Presentation to Trans-Tasman Accounting and Auditing Advisory Group (Warren)
- 9/17 Auckland, New Zealand – Participation in agenda item in meeting of Financial Reporting Standards Board (Warren)
- 9/22 Auckland, New Zealand – Participation in agenda item in meeting of Accounting Standards Review Board (Warren)
- 10/7 Wellington, New Zealand – Presentation to the Public Benefit Entity Working Group of Financial Reporting Standards Board (Warren)
- 10/16 Wellington, New Zealand – New Zealand Accountants Journal article on assessing proposal to adopt IPSASs (November issue) (Warren)
- 10/19 Wellington, New Zealand – Presentation on proposed new Statutory Financial Reporting Framework to New Zealand Treasury (Warren)
- 10/28-29 Melbourne, Australia – Joint Standards Setters Meeting (Australia/New Zealand) (Hathorn, Bergmann, Warren)
- 10/30 Melbourne, Australia – Presentation to Australian Heads of Treasuries Accounting and Reporting Advisory Committee (HoTARAc) (Hathorn, Batten, Warren)
- 11/2 Wellington, New Zealand – Presentation, *Should we Hitch Ourselves to IPSASs?* to Public Sector Special Interest Group of New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants (Warren)
- 11/5 Canberra, Australia – Presentation and discussion with Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia public sector members (Hathorn)
- 11/9 Suva, Fiji Islands – IPSAS presentation to Ministry of Finance and other officials of the Government of Fiji (van Schaik)
- 11/10 Wellington, New Zealand – videoconference on requirements for adoption of IPSASs to members of the NZ/Uruguay Peer-to-peer Partnership programme (Warren)
- 11/11 Melbourne, Australia – Presentation on IPSASB activities to the Victorian Public Sector Committee of CPA Australia (Batten)
- 11/11 Wellington, New Zealand – Presentation on *IPSAS Adoption: Business Links* seminar to academic staff and public sector and business leaders (Warren)
- 11/25 Auckland, New Zealand – Presentation on *Creating Financial Reporting Standards for Public-Benefit Entities using IFRS* (Warren)

IPSASB Regional Outreach and Relationship Building
September – December 2009

EUROPE



- 9/1 Frankfurt am Main, Germany – Interview with representatives of the Deutsche Bundesbank reg. interventions due to the financial crisis and its impact on governmental financial reporting (Müller-Marqués Berger, Khan)
- 9/2 Berlin, Germany – Interview with representatives of the Federal Ministry of Finance reg. interventions due to the financial crisis and its impact on governmental financial reporting (Müller-Marqués Berger, Khan)
- 9/17-18 London, UK – Observer at IASB Meeting (Stanford)
- 9/22 Brussels, Belgium – Presentation on IPSASs to NATO (van Schaik)
- 9/22 Brussels, Belgium – Presentation on *IPSASB Recent Developments and Future Perspectives* (van Schaik)
- 9/24 Valladolid, Spain – Presentation on IPSASB Overview at AECA Congress (Stanford)
- 9/25 Chania, Creta (Greece) – Meeting on implementation of IPSASs in the 2009 financial statements of the Centre International des Hautes etudes agronomiques méditerranéenes (CIHEAM) (Cordier)
- 9/29 London, UK – Meeting with Mr. Jeffrey Lucy, Chairman, Australian Financial Reporting Council (Hathorn)
- 9/29 Brussels, Belgium – Presentation on the IPSASB Toronto meeting highlights at the FEE (Federation of European Accountants) Public Sector Committee meeting (Müller-Marqués Berger)
- 9/30 London UK, Stuttgart, Germany – Publication of “IPSAS Explained – A Summary of International Public Sector Accounting Standards,” ISBN: 978-0-470-68392-7, by Wiley & Sons (Müller-Marqués Berger)
- 9/30 London, UK – UK ASB Committee for the Accounting for Public-Benefit Entities (Hathorn, Stanford)
- 10/6 Utrecht, the Netherlands – IPSAS presentation to financial controllers of all 12 provinces in the Netherlands (van Schaik)
- 10/6 Geneva, Switzerland – Presentation to UNCTAD Members and participation with UNCTAD, UNCTAD-ISAR IPSAS Workshop (Hathorn, van Schaik, Sylph)
- 10/6 The Hague, the Netherlands – IPSAS implementation by intergovernmental organizations (Royal NIVRA Course) (van Schaik)
- 10/8 Brussels, Belgium – Presentation on Long-term Fiscal Sustainability at CIPFA in Europe Annual Conference (Stanford)
- 10/9 Edinburgh, UK – Presentation to Members of the ICAS Public Sector Committee (Hathorn)
- 10/12 London, UK – Meeting with Ian Mackintosh, Chairman of the UK ASB (Hathorn)
- 10/14 Berlin, Germany – Interview with representatives of the Federal Ministry of Finance reg. interventions due to the financial

IPSASB Regional Outreach and Relationship Building
September – December 2009

- crisis and its impact on governmental financial reporting with a special focus on the SoFFin (Müller-Marqués Berger)
- 10/19 London, UK – Meeting with Warren McGregor (Hathorn)
 - 10/20 Wien, Austria – Meeting with Univ.-Doz. Dr. Gerhard Steger, Directorate General II, Federal Ministry of Finance reg. Governmental Accounting in Austria (Müller-Marqués Berger)
 - 10/21 Paris, France – Presentation on IPSASB work in 2008-09 to Governing Board of the “Club comptable des juridictions financières (accounting forum of financial courts) (Cordier)
 - 10/21 Graz, Austria – „Entwicklung der öffentlichen Rechnungslegung auf internationaler Ebene – Bericht aus dem IPSAS-Board“ „Development of Public Sector Accounting in International Perspective – Report from the IPSASB“ at the conference “Gibt es einen Weg zwischen Kameralistik und Doppik? – Auf dem Weg zu einem neuen Haushalts- und Rechnungswese“
 - 11/18-19 London, UK – Observer at IASB Meeting (Stanford)
 - 11/12-13 Baden-Baden, Germany – Presentation on the latest developments reg. International Public Sector Accounting at the 51th seminar of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Germany (IDW) (Müller-Marqués Berger, Brugger)
 - 11/24 Luxembourg – Meetings with European Court of Auditors and with CCAB Members (Hathorn)
 - 11/24 London, UK – Educational Session on Long-term Fiscal Sustainability to Accounting Standards Board Committee for Public-benefit Entities (Carruthers, Stanford)
 - 11/25 Brussels, Belgium – Meeting with European Commission Advisory Group on Accounting Rules (Stanford)
 - 11/27 Paris, France – Presentation on IPSASs at Meeting on State Accounting Reforms, organized by the Association internationale des services du Trésor (AIST), a French-speaking organization of public accountants with approximately 50 State members (Cordier)
 - 12/3 Berne, Switzerland – SRS-CSPCP Meeting (Bergmann)
 - 12/3 Paris, France – Meeting on IPSASB work with French parties interested in IPSASs (including representatives of ministers of budget and finances and social security, local entities, standard setter body, institute of chartered accountants, national and regional audit offices and academics) (Cordier)
 - 12/7 Rome, Italy – World Food Program Seminar (Bergmann, presenter, IPSASB Members, TAs and Staff participants)
 - 12/14 Cagliari, Italy – IPSASB Update at University of Cagliari (Salole)
 - 12/15 Rome, Italy – Presentation at CNDCED Seminar (Hathorn)
 - 12/17 Winterthur, Switzerland – Annual IPSAS Conference Presentation on Property Measurement to public sector accountants and property managers (Bergmann)

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<p>LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/23-25 Sao Paulo, Brazil – Presentation at CReCER Conference (Hathorn) • 9/24 Sao Paulo, Brazil – Presentation on Transparency and Accountability: Trends in Government Financial Reporting at the Accounting and Accountability for Regional Economic Growth (CReCER) Conference (Bean) • 9/25 Sao Paulo, Brazil – Cash Basis IPSAS Round table discussion (Hathorn, Bean, Bradbury)
<p>NORTH AMERICA</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/10 New York, NY, USA – Discussion of IFAC and IPSASB with Rod Monette, Comptroller General of Canada (Bohun-Aponte) • 10/6-8 Vancouver, BC, Canada – IPSASB Update at International Colloquium on Financial Management by National Governments (Salole) • 10/7 Vancouver, BC, Canada – Country report on identifying proposal to adopt IPSASs at International Colloquium on Financial Management by National Governments (Warren) • 10/13 Washington, DC, USA – Taping of an eight CPE hour session that focused on all the IPSASs issued to date for use by KPMG’s government sector staff (Bean) • 10/26-28 Norwalk, CT, USA – Attended IASB/FASB meeting on behalf of IPSASB (Bean) • 10/29 Toronto , ON, Canada – IPSASB Update at Canadian Accounting Standards Oversight Council (AcSoc) (Salole) • 11/17 Washington, DC, USA – Presentation at IFAC Council Seminar to IFAC Council Members (Hathorn) • 11/18 Washington, DC, USA – Presentation at IFAC Council Workshop to IFAC Council Members (Hathorn) • 11/19 Washington, DC, USA – Attendance at IFAC Board (Hathorn, Bergmann)



SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS AT THE CONFERENCE ORGANISED BY ICPAK ON INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS' (IPSASs) BETWEEN 4TH – 6TH NOVEMBER 2009 AT HILTON HOTEL, NAIROBI.

INTRODUCTION

The recently enacted Accountants' Act 2008 in Kenya obligates the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK) to champion adoption of two important pillars of sustainable economic development: accountability and good governance practices across all sectors of the economy. The Act has further given specific reference to the responsibility of advising the Minister of Finance on accountability and good governance.

One thing that is clear is that with increasing demand for transparency and accountability from the public sector, the need to establish a sustainable growth within a sustainable environment, a clear set of guidelines on recognition, de-recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of financial information relating to the government is vital not only to absolve the state off blame but also to enable comparison.

The need to achieve high standards of accountability through adoption of consistent accounting basis and user friendly financial reporting formats is of vital importance. Government leaders need to plan for periods ahead. The quality of their decisions can be improved and made better only if they have access to a reliable source of performance reports, which give periodic comparisons and recognize all transactions in a transparent manner. The answer to this challenge lies in the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs).

IPSAS are a single high quality globally acceptable accounting standards which are specifically designed to guide preparation of general purpose financial statements for the public sector enterprises. For the purpose of this standard the public enterprises are viewed to encompass; central government, regional government, local government and related government agencies. General purpose financial statements are those which offer information to users who cannot in their own capacity request and acquire information for their individual needs.

The government is a major player in the economy either as a planner, regulator, stabilizer or consumer. In Kenya to be specific and Africa at large the government accounts for an average of about 30% of the annual consumption. In the recent past the governments in Africa have set objectives of poverty eradication, combating corruption and performance management with the objective of reducing wastage and keeping in tandem with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The governments too are finding themselves at a juncture of critical reforms such as constitutional, environmental laws and boundary reforms. With statistics indicating that in Africa 307 million people are malnourished, 44% have no access to water, 63% have no access to proper sanitation, 76% have no access to electricity, 42% do not complete primary education and 163/100 infants die before their fifth birthday the question which begs for an answer then is; *What is the role of the accountant in this process?*

ADVANTAGES OF ADOPTING IPSAS.

The adoption of IPSAS will have enormous positive effect on the reporting and performance monitoring of the public sector; the benefits include:

1. Socio-economic growth.

It is a facile concept that accounting on its own cannot lead to economic growth. Accounting and reporting helps to fight corruption and fraud, which enables resources to be put to the most strategic and beneficial use. The efficient and effective allocation of resources resulting from watertight controls results in increased income for the citizenry which in turn leads to increased consumption and in turn production hence further growth and improved living standards. Accounting supports transparency and better decision making due to the possibility of public scrutiny. Because of timeliness in reporting informed decisions are taken enabling reduced wastage. There is also a comparison between budget and actual performance enabling variance analysis and remedial action.

2. Best Practices.

It must be within the desires of any democratically elected government to adopt the best practices in the realm of public financial reporting that will put it at par with other governments in similar circumstances. The IPSAS offers in one body the benchmarks from various countries agreed upon by the experts to be the best practices in the accounting for the public sector entities.

3. Independent Standard Setting.

One of the greatest challenges to any standard setting process especially in the underdeveloped world is government manipulation of the process. Many a times this yields substandard provisions that are contrary to their own essence. This defeat of the government role as the custodian of liberty and dispenser of equality, most often due the populist desire by the leaderships of the time being to satisfy certain interest groups, cannot be the headway to success. It is therefore essential that the standards are set free of political manipulation but with reliance on the expatriates' consideration of what constitutes the best practices. In this way the loopholes for corruption are sealed and confidence in the financial information created.

4. Greater Accountability and Transparency.

Africa and many other economies in Asia and Latin America are faced with a gigantic problem of corruption with its potentially devastating effects. With intellectually incapable citizenry with a culture of social silence and a complacent attitude, government expediency that thrives on illiteracy escalates unabated. With the establishment of a uniform standard for reporting similar transactions hence enabling comparison and general public awareness of what is expected from the government can lead to improved service delivery in the government in terms of value for public resources. The formulation, adoption and implementation of IPSASs being a phased process which includes public awareness both on the rights, privileges and obligations of both the state and the citizens can be integral in rising civil audit and checking government laxity.

5. Full Cost of Government.

With the present, most often archaic and superannuated accounting procedures, many material government costs go undocumented. Due to the inclusion of non cash items on the financial statements of the government, necessitated by the adoption of the accrual accounting rather than the cash based accounting system, costs such as those of depreciation, will enable determination, more precisely, of the cost of government operations.

6. Government Decisions.

Due to the quality of information availed by the adoption and application of IPSAS, the government decisions on budgeting and performance monitoring are greatly improved. The government may as well apply the available information in resource allocation. On the basis of the current accounting methods quality information cannot be guaranteed due to fact that recognition is done upon payment even when it is obvious that expenditures are sometimes incurred and accrued while some incomes are received before they are earned or earned but the reception delayed.

7. Improved Internal Controls

The suggested method for recording assets and liability eliminate chances for fraud. Reduced misappropriation of funds and resources is an indicator of good governance.

8. Reputation

This is of particular interest to small and developing economies. The view in the eye of the public, bilateral and multilateral partners, of a publicly accountable government, serves to boost

the image of the country and it's creditworthy to the lending institutions. Already World Bank, IMF, EU and UN agencies have either adopted or are in the process of adopting IPSAS as the guidelines for accounting for not only the funds provided by them in aid but also in their own internal controls. The information provided on the economic growth, interest rates, inflation and financial assets, if positive, can attract investors.

9. Training and Capacity Building

Many jurisdictions have a surplus of qualified accountants but those with proficiency in IPSAS are dismal in number. The option to train the accounting staff on IPSAS will inevitably lead to job enrichment for accounting staff albeit at some cost. Principle based approach helps to attract professionals from other sectors which widens the pool of talent to the profession.

10. Consistency and Comparability.

IPSAS will also improve consistency and comparability in preparation and reporting of financial information. This will in turn enable users to draw consistent conclusions given similar sets of financial statements.

CHALLENGES FACING ADOPTION OF IPSAS.

The understanding of the benefits of adoption of IPSAS must not leave an illusionary feeling that their adoption and implementation will be an easy sail. It will not. To a great magnitude the adoption will be halted by various challenges.

1. The IPSAS concept needs to be **embraced** by stakeholders such as parliament, National Audit Office, treasury, Government departments, development partners as well as Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs). This convergence and consensus building is not easy. In order to succeed with the implementation of IPSASs, there is need to build consensus with these interest and lobby groups, which is a major challenge.
2. Accounting for public entities is governed by **numerous legislations**. To adopt the IPSAS will take the entrenchment of the processes into the national laws as the guiding framework for preparation and reporting of financial statements. Achieving an objective legislation on a matter of financial management, as the adoption of IPSAS, in a country plagued with endemic corruption, as the case is for many African countries, is onerous. In some countries such as Nigeria, with three levels of government, federal, state and local, with two legislative houses, senate and House of Representatives, both with veto powers on matters of legislations, the process of legislation is complex and long. Similarly, there arise circumstances where the national governments establish codes of ethics to meet local scenarios that may limit the scope of the IPSASs.
3. The question of **change management** must always come to the fore front. Most state bureaucrats are used to doing things in one manner (straight jacket thinking). It is inevitable that they will resist change due to lack of will to make well the ills of the previous eras or the general preference for comfort zones.
4. There are exist **budgetary constraints** in most developing economies, where the need for adoption of IPSASs is most critical. In light of existing budgetary positions where deficit budgets are common occurrence, most of the available funds are always applied to more pressing issues of public interest.

5. In some instances, the **standards may not be suitable for reporting** in an entity, this may pose a challenge. They do not, even with full effort, manage to encompass the unique aspects of certain economies. Emphasis in most cases could be given to particular forms of revenue and expenditure. For the non catered for governments to be objective and realistic in their reporting they have to deviate materially from the requirements of the standard which could lead to the abandonment of the whole framework as well.
6. Studies have shown that adoption of IPSASs is a **catalyst to sustainable economic development**. The challenge in the developing economies would be to tie adoption of IPSASs to economic growth and convince all stakeholders to this end.
7. The success of the process of adoption of IPSASs hinges significantly on the ability of the entity to establish a wide pool of qualified personnel. The public sector however lacks the ability to attract and retain staff with the relevant skills and experience. The understanding of IPSASs in general also possess a huge challenge to the implementation process.
8. The **engagement of top level management** and other stakeholders to claim ownership of the process of adoption poses a big challenge.
9. The **definition of the public entities** to which adoption of the standards apply is not clear.
10. There exists no **clear roadmap** for implementation of the standards globally. The International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board admits the lack of a conceptual framework within which to apply the standards.
11. The **conditionalities** by the development partners has always elicited a lot of resistance from the developing economies.

PROPOSALS ON OVERCOMING THE HIGHLIGHTED CHALLENGES

1. The standard setters should enter partnership with the governments to ensure they (governments) buy into the idea, get committed to it and undertake sensitization. The Accountant Generals should take leadership role and engage with all stakeholders and always give clarity to emerging issues.
2. Legislative and legal reviews should be undertaken to encode the standards into the laws governing financial reporting by public entities.
3. Gap analysis of current practices versus IPSAS and craft appropriate strategies to meet and bridge the deficiencies.
4. Establish project implementation structures and teams with the requisite capacity to oversee the process. Establish time frame and given the magnitude of the project, possibly consider the phased approach in planning and project execution.
5. IPSASB should generate and disseminate guidelines on interpretation and implementation of IPSASs. The board should further within the shortest time possible, a conceptual framework within which to apply the set standards.
6. Improve on capacity within the implementation departments through:
 - a. public sector accounting training
 - b. functional integrated IT systems-GFMIS
 - c. Incorporate IPSASs in the university and college curriculum
7. Formation of an all inclusive standards' committees with the requisite competencies in the implementation process while ensuring that the process is carried out in a sustainable manner and with regular and timely reporting on the progress of adoption. Seek to engage the development partners with proper project design documentation for the IPSASs project.
8. Adoption of IPSAS framework should be integrated in the negotiations for regional integration.

9. The development partners should not encourage parallel accounting and reporting for projects but rather advocate for the single system for both projects and main stream funding and development of staff capacity. They should champion transparency and accountability in the public sector through supporting the adoption process without imposing conditionalities.
10. Knowledge and experience sharing at national and international level through conferences and workshops.
11. Involve the media so that they sensitize members of the public on the need for setting standards as to their financial reporting needs that meet international best practices.
12. Ensure that the professional examining bodies include IPSASs in their certification exams and curriculum.
13. The accountancy professionals need to be subject-matter experts to give guidance, must have in depth understanding of IPSASs and continuously seek to be at breast with current developments with a view of disseminating this knowledge knowing that it has a business impact.
14. Develop a simplified business case for use in justifying the quality of information for decision making from financial systems based on IPSASs.
15. All stakeholders need to have a change of mindset to accommodate the implementation of IPSASs.
16. Need for all stakeholders to realize that the professionals within the public sector are qualified and they should work closely with them.
17. Encourage the implementation of Integrated Financial Management Information Systems (IFMIS) as it takes into account IPSASs.



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**INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (IPSAS)
AFRICA CONFERENCE HELD IN NAIROBI FROM 4TH TO 6TH
NOVEMBER 2009**

RESOLUTIONS

In recognition of the need to share knowledge and experiences utilising these to develop unique African solutions, we hereby resolve that

- The International Public Sector Accounting Standards Africa Conference be held as an Annual event.

With the knowledge that good reporting systems in the public sector will contribute to good governance in Africa

- We the accounting profession commit ourselves to pursue the adoption and implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards in Africa. We propose the establishment of an IPSAS Watch Group to keep track of the status of IPSAS adoption and understand the challenges and issues hindering IPSAS adoption in Africa and Implementation in Africa, identify challenges and share solutions. We do request the IPSAS Board to support this initiative and provide the technical support it will require.
- We the accounting profession will work towards creating political acceptance and support among Parliaments through the African Parliamentary Forum and other relevant forums.

SIGNING: We do request those who are here representing Institutes to take back these resolutions for consideration and adoption at the Country level and will not be calling upon you to sign the declaration today.



**Institute of
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**INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (IPSAS)
AFRICA CONFERENCE HELD IN NAIROBI FROM 4TH - 6TH NOVEMBER
2009**

RESOLUTIONS BY ICPAK

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya hereby commit to using our best endeavours in pursuing the adoption and implementation of IPSAS in Kenya.

- To this end we recognize one of that lack of technical knowledge and capacity is one of the challenges to be overcome if the implementation of IPSAS is to be a success. We at ICPAK propose to embark on:
 - An ambitious capacity building program in Kenya with the aim being to train a significant number of accountants in IPSAS over the next few years.
 - A program to build technical capacity, knowledge base and resources within Kenya so as to support the implementation of IPSAS in Kenya.
- We the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya will spearhead together with the Ministry of Finance and in particular the office of the Accountant General, the process of developing a “RoadMap towards Adoption and Implementation of IPSAS in Kenya” and will call for a Stakeholders Forum to develop this.
- We the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya appreciate the Ministry of the Local Government which has worked together with the Institute and has adopted the use of IPSAS for Local Authorities. We as an Institute prioritise the implementation of IPSAS in Local Authorities and will provide the necessary leadership and support to aid the implementation process.
- To drive these resolutions, we propose establishing an IPSAS Watch Group for Kenya comprising the following;
 - The Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya
 - The Government of Kenya and in particular the Offices of the Accountant General, the Internal Auditor General and the Controller and Auditor General.

- Practicing Firms in Kenya
- KASNEB
- Training Institutions and
- Development Partners

Signed:

Michael Itote

Chairman

For and On Behalf of ICPAK

6th November 2009