



15 February 2024

BOTSWANA INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS COMMENT LETTER TO THE IPSASB'S STRATEGY AND WORK PROGRAM 2024-2028

Introduction

The Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants (“BICA”) is a statutory body established by Accountants Act, 2010 for the regulation of the accountancy profession in Botswana. The Institute’s mission is to protect public interest through promoting the accountancy profession, supporting accountants, facilitating quality professional accountancy services through the monitoring and regulation of professional accountants.

The Institute appreciates the opportunity to contribute towards the Consultation Paper, *Proposed IPSASB Strategy and Work Program, 2024 - 2028*. We have provided our comments to each specific question as per the Consultation Paper. Should you wish to have further engagements please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours Faithfully

Signed electronically

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Director – Technical and Public Sector Accounting Services

SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR COMMENT

SMC 1

The IPSASB proposes to update its strategic objective to reflect the shift in the balance of public sector financial reporting needs towards the maintenance of IPSAS and the development of international Public Sector Sustainability Reporting Standards.

- a) Do you agree with the strategic objective?

Strengthening Public Financial Management and sustainable development globally through increasing adoption and implementation of accrual IPSAS and international Public Sector Sustainability Reporting Standards.

BICA Comment

As the accountancy professions evolves and need for more transparency, accountability, a comprehensive reporting that includes all aspects of key information to users of financial information is need. Most jurisdictions are required to report as per the requirements of IPSASB for uniformity and alignment and with this strategic objective it will guide them on were to focus in terms of their reporting.

- b) Do your agree with the IPSASB's proposal to deliver its strategic objective through two main activities (Delivering Global Standards and Inspiring Implementation)

BICA Comment

It is critical not only to issue standards but also to advocate for their adoption.

SMC 2

The IPSASB proposes to add maintenance activities to its work program, including a process to assess IPSAS application challenges and to undertake post implementation reviews. Therefore, at this time, the IPSASB is not proposing to add new major financial reporting standards setting projects

Do you agree with the proposal to add maintenance activities? If you do not agree, please explain why including any proposed alternatives.

BICA COMMENTARY

Yes, this is will assist with assessing if the objective is achieved at the end of the set period.

SMC 3

The IPSASB's potential Future Financial Reporting Projects, see Appendix A include for the development of new IPSAS and the maintenance of existing IPSAS.

- 1.) Are there other major financial reporting projects the IPSAB should consider adding to the potential Future Financial Reporting Standards setting project list?

BICA Commentary

None identified.

- 2.) Are there other IPSAS that the IPSASB should consider as a potential project for its maintenance program?

BICA Commentary

None identified.

- 3.) If the IPSASB'S proposal to implement a PIR process is supported, what IPSAS are of the highest priority in your jurisdiction?

BICA Commentary

IPSAS 33 First time adoption of Accrual basis.

The jurisdiction is in the process of implementing accrual accounting and there might be challenges especially on the right professionals who are capable of applying the standard.

IPSAS 17 Property, plant and Equipment.

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SMC 4

Upon completion of the three pre-committed sustainability reporting standards projects, what are the key Public sector sustainability reporting issues the IPSASB should consider adding to its work program?

BICA Commentary

The following should be considered under each project;

a) Climate-Related Disclosure

The impact of climate change on Sustainability Reporting.

b) General Requirements for disclosure of Sustainability-Related Information

The nature of Key disclosure information needed for reporting should be considered.

c) Natural Resources-Non-Financial Disclosures

The impact of other reporting standards on the disclosure of natural resources. There might be overlap on the application of IPSAS and how the disclosure is accounted for by other reporting standards.