In brief
A look at current financial reporting issues
inform.pwc.com

pwc

September 2014

IASB concludes the Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2012–2014 Cycle

Issue

The IASB issued *Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2012 – 2014 Cycle* on 25 September 2014. The amendments affect IFRS 5, IFRS 7, IAS 19 and IAS 34; they will apply for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016. The following is a summary of key amendments.

Impact

IFRS 5, 'Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations'

The amendment clarifies that, when an asset (or disposal group) is reclassified from 'held for sale' to 'held for distribution', or vice versa, this does not constitute a change to a plan of sale or distribution, and does not have to be accounted for as such. This means that the asset (or disposal group) does not need to be reinstated in the financial statements as if it had never been classified as 'held for sale' or 'held for distribution' simply because the manner of disposal has changed. The amendment also rectifies an omission in the standard by explaining that the guidance on changes in a plan of sale should be applied to an asset (or disposal group) which ceases to be held for distribution but is not reclassified as 'held for sale'.

IFRS 7, 'Financial instruments: Disclosures'

There are two amendments to IFRS 7.

1. Servicing contracts

If an entity transfers a financial asset to a third party under conditions which allow the transferor to derecognise the asset, IFRS 7 requires disclosure of all types of continuing involvement that the entity might still have in the transferred assets.

IFRS 7 provides guidance on what is meant by continuing involvement in this context. The amendment adds specific guidance to help management determine whether the terms of an arrangement to service a financial asset which has been transferred constitute continuing involvement. The amendment is prospective with an option to apply retrospectively. A consequential amendment to IFRS 1 is included to give the same relief to first-time adopters.

2. Interim financial statements

The amendment clarifies that the additional disclosure required by the amendments to IFRS 7, 'Disclosure – Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities' is not specifically required for all interim periods, unless required by IAS 34. The amendment is retrospective.

IAS 19, 'Employee benefits'

The amendment clarifies that, when determining the discount rate for post-employment benefit obligations, it is the currency that the liabilities are denominated in that is important, and not the country where they arise. The assessment of whether there is a deep market in high-quality corporate bonds is based on corporate bonds in that currency, not corporate bonds in a particular country. Similarly, where there is no deep market in high-quality corporate bonds in that currency, government bonds in the relevant currency should be used. The amendment is retrospective but limited to the beginning of the earliest period presented.

IAS 34, 'Interim financial reporting'

The amendment clarifies what is meant by the reference in the standard to 'information disclosed elsewhere in the interim financial report'. The amendment further amends IAS 34 to require a cross-reference from the interim financial statements to the location of that information. The amendment is retrospective.

Insight

Am I affected?

The amendments will not affect every entity. However, if you are affected, the impact could be significant. Please read the amendments in their entirety, to determine the impact on you.