

Strengthening Transparency and Accountability

A comprehensive overview of measures undertaken by the IASC Foundation and the IASB responding to the conclusions reached by the G20 at their summit in London, UK 2 April 2009. The overview was updated on 9 April 2009.

RECOMMENDATION	ACTIONS COMPLETED/UNDERWAY	NEXT STEPS
<p>Accounting standard setters should improve standards for the valuation of financial instruments based on their liquidity and investors' holding horizons, while reaffirming the framework of fair value accounting.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. October 2008: IASB issues the report of its expert advisory panel on fair value measurement when markets are no longer active and a staff summary of that report. 2. October 2008: the IASB permits the reclassification of specific financial instruments in some instances. 3. March 2009: the IASB publishes a request for views on proposals from the US Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) that deal with guidance on fair value measurement. Comment deadline is 20 April. 4. Ongoing (to early May 2009): the IASB is developing an exposure draft of an IFRS on fair value measurement, to establish a single source of guidance for all fair value measurements required or permitted by existing IFRSs. This will make the application of those requirements more consistent, reduce complexity and bring about 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. April 2009: following the FASB decision on the amendments on 2 April, the IASB recognises the need for rapid consideration of these issues, which was anticipated by the shortened consultation period. Staff analysis, the comments solicited by the IASB's consultation, and input received from the Financial Crisis Advisory Group (FCAG) and the Standards Advisory Council (SAC) will inform the IASB's decision at its 20-24 April meeting as to whether, in the light of FASB's actions, further guidance on the application of fair value in inactive markets and impairment of debt securities is needed. 2. Early May 2009: the IASB will issue its exposure draft on fair value measurement with a comment period of 120 days. The IASB plans to hold a round table thereafter. Publication of a final standard is planned for the first half of 2010.

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	further convergence with US GAAP and IFRSs.	3. The IASB will respond to the recommendations received from the FCAG which is due to report in the first half of the year.
Standard-setters should reduce the complexity of accounting standards for financial instruments.	<p>1. March 2008: IASB and FASB publish a discussion paper for a replacement of IAS 39 <i>Reducing Complexity in Reporting Financial Instruments</i>.</p> <p>March 2009: IASB and FASB agree to undertake the replacement of existing financial instruments standards (IAS 39 in the case of the IASB) with a common and globally accepted standard on an accelerated basis. This review allows addressing issues arising from the financial crisis in a comprehensive manner.</p>	<p>1. October 2009: IASB and FASB will work urgently to propose a new common standard that would replace existing requirements for financial instruments. This is consistent with the timetable of the G20 recommendations.</p> <p>2. The preparation of the new standard will include appropriate consultation with investors, regulators, preparers, standard-setters and other interested parties. The project will use the input of the FCAG, the comments received to the discussion paper, and consider the lessons learned from the crisis.</p>
Standard-setters should strengthen accounting recognition of loan-loss provisions by incorporating a broader range of credit information	<p>1. The IASB and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision are meeting on a regular basis to discuss the issue of loan-loss provisions. The FASB has been invited to join these discussions.</p> <p>2. Ongoing: The FCAG is examining the issue of provisioning and will make a recommendation to the IASB and the FASB.</p> <p>3. March 2009: IASB and FASB initiate the urgent review of loan loss accounting, including the</p>	<p>1. Discussions with the Basel Committee, the FCAG, and other interested parties will provide direction to the IASB's conclusions to be included in the proposed revised standard (exposure draft) with an estimated October publication.</p>

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	incurred and expected loss models.	
Standard-setters should improve accounting standards for provisioning, off-balance sheet exposures and valuation uncertainty.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As noted above, the IASB is taking a number of steps on provisioning. 2. March 2009: Comment period for a proposed standard on Consolidation ends. The exposure draft was published in December 2008. 3. March 2009: IASB publishes an exposure draft (ED) on derecognition. The ED is open for public comment until 31 July 2009. 4. As noted above, the IASB is actively working on an exposure draft on fair value measurement. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early May 2009: IASB plans publication of an exposure draft on fair value measurement. 2. June 2009: IASB and FASB will be holding joint round-tables in Europe, the United States, and in Asia on the consolidation and derecognition proposals. 3. Year end 2009: IASB anticipates the publication of a final standard on Consolidation. 4. IASB will continue consultations with interested parties on an urgent basis.
Standard-setters should make significant progress towards a single set of high quality global accounting standards.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieving global accounting standards are the organisation's primary objective, as stated in its Constitution. 2. 2008: IASB and FASB update their Memorandum of Understanding. The objective: achieving broad convergence of IFRSs and US GAAP by 2011. 3. IASB works with national standard-setters internationally to promote adoption of IFRSs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The organisation will continue to promote full adoption of IFRSs. IASB and FASB will work as a matter of priority on projects related to the Memorandum of Understanding and will seek to avoid any unnecessary divergences in the interim period. 2. The IASB plans to finish many of its major projects by 2011 to provide an orderly transition for several countries intending to adopt IFRS around that time.

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<p>The IASC Foundation, within the framework of the independent accounting standard setting process, should improve involvement of stakeholders, including prudential regulators and emerging markets, through the IASB's constitutional review.</p>	<p>1. January 2009: Completion of the first part of the Constitution review. The result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the Trustees implemented a change that will increase the size of the IASB to 16 members and sets out geographical guidelines regarding the IASB's composition. Under the new guidelines, there shall be one member each from Africa and South America. The IASB already has members from China and India. ▪ the Trustees establish a formal link with capital market authorities, who have created the IASC Foundation Monitoring Board. The IOSCO Emerging Markets Committee is a member of the Monitoring Board. The Basel Committee is an observer. <p>2. July 2008: the Trustees restructure the Standards Advisory Council, the IASB's main advisory body. The objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ enhancing its effectiveness, and wider outreach to analyst and investor groups. <p>The council is reconstituted to comprise representatives of stakeholder organizations around the world. They are expected to canvas their respective constituent groups in preparation of meetings, present these views to the IASB, and</p>	<p>1. 3rd and 4th quarter 2009: the Trustees will hold public round-tables in order to enhance the consultation process on the second part of the Constitution Review</p> <p>2. January 2010: is the planned ratification date of relevant constitutional amendments as a result of the second part of the Constitution Review.</p>
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	<p>bring back meeting conclusions and discussions to their colleagues. The membership includes the stakeholders recommended by the G20.</p> <p>3. December 2008: the Trustees initiate the second part of the Constitution Review by publishing a consultation document.</p>	
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