Exposure Draft: 79

Proposed International Public Sector Accounting Standard

Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations

Response from the Public Accountants and Auditors Board (PAAB), Zimbabwe

19 October, 2021
The Public Accountants and Auditors Board (PAAB), Zimbabwe, was established by section 4 of the Public Accountants and Auditors Act, 1995 (as amended) (the Act). Public accountants (public auditors) are defined in the Act as any person registered by the PAAB to provide public accountancy services (public audit services) to any person, including a public company or statutory body. PAAB is the National Standards Setter in Zimbabwe responsible for endorsing and adopting international accounting standards, international standards on auditing and international public sector accounting standards when they meet certain criteria for prescription by statutory regulation by PAAB in accordance with section 44(2)(a) of the Act. PAAB is responsible for defining and enforcing ethical practice and discipline among registered public accountants and public auditors and setting Ethics standards (section 5(1)(d) of the Act); and representing the views of the accountancy profession on national, regional and international issues (section 5(1)(g) of the Act). PAAB also plays a role in accountancy-specific education (section 5(1)(h) of the Act).

Further information about PAAB can be obtained at [www.paab.org.zw](http://www.paab.org.zw)

Any questions arising from this submission should be directed to:

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ED 79: Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations

PAAB is pleased to present its comments on this Exposure Draft, which has been reviewed by PAAB’s Public Sector Accounting Standards Committee (PSASC).

Response to Specific Matters for Comment

Detailed comments on the Specific Matters for Comment are provided in the attached Annex.

We hope this is a helpful contribution to IPSASB’s work in this area.

George Mahembe
Chairman, PSASC

Admire Ndurunduru
Secretary, PAAB

Sonny Mabheju
Technical Advisor, PAAB
Specific Matter for Comment

The IPSASB decided that there was no public sector specific reason to depart from the measurement requirements of IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations. However, the IPSASB considers that, where materially different, disclosures of the fair value of non-current assets classified as held for sale measured at a lower carrying amount would provide useful information to users of financial statements for accountability purposes.

The additional proposed disclosure is shown at paragraph 52 of this ED.

Do you agree with this disclosure proposal? If not, why not?

PAAB agrees with the additional proposed disclosure at paragraph 52 which reads; “An entity shall disclose in the notes, the fair value of the non-current asset (or disposal group) classified as held for sale when that non-current asset (or disposal group) is measured at a materially lower carrying amount than fair value.”

This proposed disclosure is consistent with serving the public interest as public sector entities are expected to do. Additionally, it also enhances accountability and transparency which are other important requirements for public sector reporting. All these become specifically important in this circumstance where the measurement is below fair value.