

CONCORSO PUBBLICO, PER ESAMI, A N. 6 POSTI DI CATEGORIA D, POSIZIONE ECONOMICA D1, AREA AMMINISTRATIVA-GESTIONALE, PER LE ESIGENZE DEL'AREA CONTABILE DELL'UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II (COD. RIF. 2211), DI CUI N. 1 POSTO RISERVATO ALLE CATEGORIE DI CUI AL D.LGS. N. 66 DEL 15 MARZO 2010, ARTT. 1014, COMMA1, LETT. A) E 678, COMMA 9, INDETTO CON DECRETO DEL DIRETTORE GENERALE N. 527 DEL 20.05.2022 E PUBBLICATO SULLA GAZZETTA UFFICIALE IV SERIE SPECIALE – CONCORSI ED ESAMI N. 45 DEL 7.6.2022

QUESITI IN MATERIA CONTABILE

ESTRATTI ALLA PROVA ORALE

DEL 12 E 13 OTTOBRE 2022

1. Si illustri la struttura, il contenuto e la modalità di composizione dello stato patrimoniale del bilancio unico di Ateneo, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustrino i requisiti di iscrizione delle immobilizzazioni materiali soffermandosi sulla contabilizzazione delle spese di manutenzione straordinaria.
3. Si descriva l'applicazione del principio della prudenza nell'ambito della valutazione delle poste di bilancio.

1. Si illustri la funzione e la struttura del bilancio unico di ateneo di previsione annuale autorizzatorio, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19), soffermandosi sulla struttura del budget economico.
2. Si illustri la rilevazione delle spese di manutenzione ordinaria e straordinaria secondo i principi contabili nazionali.
3. Si illustrino i principi contabili generali di valutazione della voce "immobilizzazioni finanziarie" ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.19 del 14 gennaio 2014.

1. Si illustri la struttura, il contenuto e la modalità di composizione del conto economico del bilancio unico di Ateneo ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si descrivano le scritture di assestamento da redigere per la predisposizione del bilancio d'esercizio e, in particolare, le scritture di rettifica
3. Si descriva l'applicazione del principio della competenza nell'ambito della valutazione delle poste di bilancio.

1. Si illustrino i risconti e se ne descriva l'utilizzo per la valutazione dei progetti, delle commesse e delle ricerche nelle università ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si descrivano le scritture di assestamento da redigere per la predisposizione di bilancio d'esercizio e, in particolare, le scritture di integrazione.

3. Si illustrino i requisiti di iscrizione delle immobilizzazioni materiali, contenute nella voce A) II dello Stato Patrimoniale, soffermandosi sulle principali voci che la compongono.

1. Si illustrino i ratei e se ne descriva l'utilizzo per la valutazione dei progetti, delle commesse e delle ricerche nelle università ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si descriva l'origine e la determinazione delle plusvalenze da alienazione delle immobilizzazioni materiali.
3. Si illustri la funzione della Nota Integrativa secondo quanto disciplinato dai principi contabili nazionali.

1. Si illustri la disciplina contabile dei proventi e crediti verso studenti, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustri il procedimento di ammortamento delle immobilizzazioni materiali e si indichi quale possa essere l'effetto sul reddito d'esercizio della scelta di effettuare l'ammortamento accelerato.
3. Si illustri la voce "immobilizzazioni in corso" secondo quanto disciplinato dai principi contabili nazionali.

1. Si descriva la rappresentazione del patrimonio non vincolato e si illustri la riclassificazione delle riserve da patrimonio non vincolato a vincolato, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustri l'iscrizione e il successivo trattamento contabile dei costi per migliorie di beni di terzi.
3. Si illustrino i principi contabili generali di valutazione della voce "crediti" ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.19 del 14 gennaio 2014.

1. Si illustri la composizione del patrimonio netto delle Università e le eventuali variazioni successive, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustrino la funzione e le modalità di rilevazione dei ratei in contabilità generale.
3. Si illustrino i principi contabili generali di valutazione della voce partecipazioni ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.19 del 14 gennaio 2014.

1. Si illustri la disciplina contabile delle liberalità in denaro con particolare riferimento al momento e al titolo di rilevazione, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustrino la funzione e le modalità di rilevazione dei risconti attivi e passivi in contabilità generale.
3. Si illustri la composizione e gli schemi del bilancio d'esercizio ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.394 dell'08.06.2017.

1. Si illustri la disciplina contabile delle liberalità in beni mobili, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustri la rilevazione delle immobilizzazioni finanziarie in bilancio ai sensi dei principi contabili nazionali.
3. Si illustri il principio dell'equilibrio ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.19 del 14 gennaio 2014.

1. Si descriva la rappresentazione e la formazione del patrimonio vincolato e si illustri la riclassificazione delle riserve da patrimonio vincolato a non vincolato, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustrino i requisiti e le modalità di rilevazione contabile dell'utilizzo fondo svalutazione crediti.
3. Si illustri il principio della prevalenza della sostanza sulla forma ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.19 del 14 gennaio 2014.

1. Si illustri il trattamento contabile dei contributi annuali e pluriennali c/esercizio ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustrino i requisiti e la modalità di rilevazione contabile del fondo oneri.
3. Si illustrino i contenuti della voce di stato patrimoniale attivo "ratei attivi per progetti e ricerche in corso" così come prevista del Decreto Interministeriale n.394 dell'08.06.2017.

1. Si illustrino la composizione del patrimonio netto e la natura del fondo di dotazione, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustrino i requisiti e la modalità di rilevazione contabile dell'utilizzo del fondo oneri.
3. Si illustrino i contenuti della voce di stato patrimoniale passivo "ratei e risconti passivi e contributi agli investimenti" così come prevista del Decreto Interministeriale n.394 dell'08.06.2017.

1. Si illustri la disciplina dei fondi per rischi e oneri per le università, ai sensi del Manuale Tecnico Operativo (art. 8, DI MIUR-MEF 14 gennaio 2014, n.19).
2. Si illustri il procedimento di ammortamento delle immobilizzazioni e ci si soffermi sull'epilogo dei fondi ammortamento nello Stato Patrimoniale finale.
3. Si illustrino i principi di valutazione della voce "patrimonio netto" ai sensi del Decreto Interministeriale n.394 dell'08.06.2017.

CONCORSO PUBBLICO, PER ESAMI, A N. 6 POSTI DI CATEGORIA D, POSIZIONE ECONOMICA D1, AREA AMMINISTRATIVA-GESTIONALE, PER LE ESIGENZE DEL'AREA CONTABILE DELL'UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II (COD. RIF. 2211), DI CUI N. 1 POSTO RISERVATO ALLE CATEGORIE DI CUI AL D.LGS. N. 66 DEL 15 MARZO 2010, ARTT. 1014, COMMA1, LETT. A) E 678, COMMA 9, INDETTO CON DECRETO DEL DIRETTORE GENERALE N. 527 DEL 20.05.2022 E PUBBLICATO SULLA GAZZETTA UFFICIALE IV SERIE SPECIALE – CONCORSI ED ESAMI N. 45 DEL 7.6.2022

QUESITI IN MATERIA INFORMATICA

ESTRATTI ALLA PROVA ORALE

DEL 12 E 13 OTTOBRE 2022

Il candidato inserisca, in corrispondenza di tutto il testo presente, un commento

Il candidato applichi una formattazione condizionale ai valori numerici con regola "maggiore di € 1000,00"

Il candidato inserisca, successivamente al testo presente, una tabella 3x4

Il candidato crei un grafico Istogramma in base ai valori presenti in tabella

Il candidato trasformi il file .docx in .pdf

Il candidato applichi un filtro alla colonna "Responsabile Spesa" in modo da ottenere le sole righe in cui è presente il valore "Luca"

Il candidato trasformi i valori di tipo valuta presenti nella colonna "Importo" in valori di tipo numerico senza valuta e li allinei centralmente

Il candidato imposti, in corrispondenza del contorno colorato di giallo, l'area di stampa

Il candidato inserisca un Frontespizio a piacere e lo personalizzi

Il candidato effettui una "formattazione come tabella" del prospetto presente

Il candidato imposti uno sfondo all'intero foglio di lavoro

Il candidato crei, in base ai dati presenti in tabella, un grafico di tipo Torta

Il candidato modifichi lo stile delle celle con un tema a piacere

Il candidato giustifichi il testo presente e gli applichi un'evidenziazione a piacere

CONCORSO PUBBLICO, PER ESAMI, A N. 6 POSTI DI CATEGORIA D, POSIZIONE ECONOMICA D1, AREA AMMINISTRATIVA-GESTIONALE, PER LE ESIGENZE DEL'AREA CONTABILE DELL'UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II (COD. RIF. 2211), DI CUI N. 1 POSTO RISERVATO ALLE CATEGORIE DI CUI AL D.LGS. N. 66 DEL 15 MARZO 2010, ARTT. 1014, COMMA1, LETT. A) E 678, COMMA 9, INDETTO CON DECRETO DEL DIRETTORE GENERALE N. 527 DEL 20.05.2022 E PUBBLICATO SULLA GAZZETTA UFFICIALE IV SERIE SPECIALE – CONCORSI ED ESAMI N. 45 DEL 7.6.2022

BRANI IN LINGUA INGLESE
ESTRATTI ALLA PROVA ORALE
DEL 12 E 13 OTTOBRE 2022

PREFACE TO INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Introduction

1. This preface to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs) sets out the objectives and operating procedures of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) and explains the scope and authority of the IPSASs. The preface should be used as a reference for interpreting Invitations to Comment, discussion documents, Exposure Drafts and Standards approved and published by the IPSASB.
2. The mission of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), as set out in its constitution, is "to serve the public interest, strengthen the accountancy profession worldwide and contribute to the development of strong international economies by establishing and promoting adherence to high-quality professional standards, furthering the international convergence of such standards, and speaking out on public interest issues where the profession's expertise is most relevant." In pursuing this mission, IFAC established the IPSASB.
3. The IPSASB (formerly Public Sector Committee (PSC)) is a Board of IFAC formed to develop and issue under its own authority International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs). IPSASs are high quality global financial reporting standards for application by public sector entities other than Government Business Enterprises (GBEs).
4. The IPSASB's Consultative Group is appointed by the IPSASB. The Consultative Group is a non-voting group. It provides a means by which the IPSASB can consult with and seek advice as necessary from a broad constituent group. The Consultative Group is chaired by the Chair of the IPSASB. The Consultative Group is primarily an electronic forum. However, regional chapters of the Consultative Group meet with the IPSASB in conjunction with any IPSASB meetings in their region. All Consultative Group members are invited to these meetings. In addition, a full meeting of all members of the Consultative Group may be held if considered necessary.

Objectives of the IPSASB

5. The objectives of the IPSASB are to serve the public interest by developing high quality public sector financial reporting standards and by facilitating the convergence of international and national standards, thereby enhancing the quality and uniformity of financial reporting throughout the world. The IPSASB achieves its objectives by:
 - Issuing International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs);
 - Promoting their acceptance and the international convergence to these standards; and

Objective

The objective of this Standard is to require the disclosure of the existence of related party relationships where control exists, and the disclosure of information about transactions between the entity and its related parties in certain circumstances. This information is required for accountability purposes, and to facilitate a better understanding of the financial position and performance of the reporting entity. The principal issues in disclosing information about related parties are (a) identifying which parties control or significantly influence the reporting entity, and (b) determining what information should be disclosed about transactions with those parties.

Scope

1. An entity that prepares and presents financial statements under the accrual basis of accounting shall apply this Standard in disclosing information about related party relationships and certain transactions with related parties.
2. This Standard applies to all public sector entities other than Government Business Enterprises.
3. The *Preface to International Public Sector Accounting Standards* issued by the IPSASB explains that Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) apply IFRSs issued by the IASB. GBEs are defined in IPSAS 1, *Presentation of Financial Statements*.

Definitions

4. The following terms are used in this Standard with the meanings specified:

Close members of the family of an individual are close relatives of the individual or members of the individual's immediate family who can be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the entity.

Key management personnel are:

- (a) All directors or members of the governing body of the entity; and
- (b) Other persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the reporting entity. Where they meet this requirement, key management personnel include:
 - (i) Where there is a member of the governing body of a whole-of-government entity who has the authority and

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS

The Organization

The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) is the worldwide organization for the accountancy profession. Founded in 1977, its mission is to serve the public interest by continuing to strengthen the worldwide accountancy profession and contributing to the development of strong international economies by establishing and promoting adherence to high-quality professional standards, furthering the international convergence of such standards, and speaking out on public interest issues where the profession's expertise is most relevant.

IFAC is comprised of 159 members and associates in 124 countries worldwide, representing approximately 2.5 million accountants in public practice, industry and commerce, the public sector, and education. No other accountancy body in the world and few other professional organizations have the broad-based international support that characterizes IFAC.

IFAC's governing bodies, staff and volunteers are committed to the values of integrity, transparency and expertise. IFAC also seeks to reinforce professional accountants' adherence to these values through the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (IESBA Code).

Visit the IFAC website at <http://www.ifac.org> for further information.

Standard-Setting Initiatives

IFAC has long recognized that a fundamental way to protect the public interest is to develop, promote, and enforce internationally recognized standards as a means of ensuring the credibility of information upon which investors and other stakeholders depend.

The International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB), the International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB), the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA), and the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) follow a rigorous due process that supports the development of high-quality standards in the public interest in a transparent, efficient, and effective manner. These independent standard-setting boards all have Consultative Advisory Groups, which provide public interest perspectives, and include public members. These boards issue the following pronouncements:

- Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants
- International Standards on Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services
- International Standard on Quality Control

The Preface to the Conceptual Framework for General Purpose Financial Reporting by Public Sector Entities

Introduction

1. The *Conceptual Framework for General Purpose Financial Reporting by Public Sector Entities* (the Conceptual Framework) establishes the concepts that are to be applied in developing International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs) and Recommended Practice Guidelines (RPGs) applicable to the preparation and presentation of general purpose financial reports (GPFRs) of public sector entities¹.
2. The primary objective of most public sector entities is to deliver services to the public, rather than to make profits and generate a return on equity to investors. Consequently the performance of such entities can be only partially evaluated by examination of financial position, financial performance and cash flows. GPFRs provide information to users for accountability and decision-making purposes. Therefore, users of the GPFRs of public sector entities need information to support assessments of such matters as:
 - Whether the entity provided its services to constituents in an efficient and effective manner;
 - The resources currently available for future expenditures, and to what extent there are restrictions or conditions attached to their use;
 - To what extent the burden on future-year taxpayers of paying for current services has changed; and
 - Whether the entity's ability to provide services has improved or deteriorated compared with the previous year.
3. Governments generally have broad powers, including the ability to establish and enforce legal requirements, and to change those requirements. Globally the public sector varies considerably in both its constitutional arrangements and its methods of operation. However, governance in the public sector generally involves the holding to account of the executive by a legislative body (or equivalent).
4. The following sections highlight characteristics of the public sector that the IPSASB has considered in the development of the Conceptual Framework.

The Volume and Financial Significance of Non-Exchange Transactions

5. In a non-exchange transaction, an entity receives value from another party without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange. Such transactions are common in the public sector. The level and quality of services received by an individual, or group of individuals, is not normally directly related to the level of taxes assessed. An individual or group may have to pay a charge or fee and/or may have had to make specified contributions to access certain services. However, such transactions are, generally, of a non-exchange nature, because the amount that an individual or group of individuals obtains in benefits will not be approximately equal to the amount of any fees paid or contributions made by the individual or group. The nature of non-exchange transactions may have

¹ The public sector includes national and sub-national (regional, state/provincial, and local), governments and related governmental entities. It also includes international public sector organizations.

A present obligation exists when, and only when, the entity has no realistic alternative but to make the payments.

21. In the public sector, some entities have bonus plans that are related to service delivery objectives or aspects of financial performance. Under such plans, employees receive specified amounts, dependent on an assessment of their contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the entity or a segment of the entity. In some cases, such plans may be for groups of employees, such as when performance is evaluated for all or some employees in a particular segment, rather than on an individual basis. Because of the objectives of public sector entities, profit-sharing plans are far less common in the public sector than for profit-oriented entities. However, they are likely to be an aspect of employee remuneration in segments of public sector entities that operate on a commercial basis. Some public sector entities may not operate profit-sharing schemes, but may evaluate performance against financially based measures such as the generation of revenue streams and the achievement of budgetary targets. Some bonus plans may entail payments to all employees who rendered employment services in a reporting period, even though they may have left the entity before the reporting date. However, under other bonus plans, employees receive payments only if they remain with the entity for a specified period, for example, a requirement that employees render services for the whole of the reporting period. Such plans create a constructive obligation as employees render service that increases the amount to be paid if they remain in service until the end of the specified period. The measurement of such constructive obligations reflects the possibility that some employees may leave without receiving profit-sharing payments. Paragraph 23 provides further conditions that are to be satisfied before an entity can recognize the expected cost of performance-related payments, bonus payments, and profit-sharing payments.
22. An entity may have no legal obligation to pay a bonus. Nevertheless, in some cases, an entity has a practice of paying bonuses. In such cases, the entity has a constructive obligation because the entity has no realistic alternative but to pay the bonus. The measurement of the constructive obligation reflects the possibility that some employees may leave without receiving a bonus.
23. An entity can make a reliable estimate of its legal or constructive obligation under a performance-related payment scheme, bonus plan, or profit-sharing scheme when, and only when:
 - (a) The formal terms of the plan contain a formula for determining the amount of the benefit;
 - (b) The entity determines the amounts to be paid before the financial statements are authorized for issue; or
 - (c) Past practice gives clear evidence of the amount of the entity's constructive obligation.

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD

Terms of Reference

Purpose of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board

1. The mission of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), as set out in its constitution, is “to serve the public interest. IFAC will continue to strengthen the worldwide accountancy profession and contribute to the development of strong international economies by establishing and promoting adherence to high-quality professional standards, furthering the international convergence of such standards and speaking out on public interest issues where the profession’s expertise is most relevant.” In pursuing this mission, the IFAC Board has established the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) to develop high-quality accounting standards for use by public sector entities around the world in the preparation of general purpose financial statements. In this regard:
 - The term public sector refers to national governments, regional (e.g., state, provincial, territorial) governments, local (e.g., city, town) governments and related governmental entities (e.g., agencies, boards, commissions and enterprises); and
 - General purpose financial statements refers to financial statements issued for users that are unable to demand financial information to meet their specific information needs.
2. The IFAC Board has determined that designation of the IPSASB as the responsible body for the development of such standards, under its own authority and within its stated terms of reference, best serves the public interest in achieving this aspect of its mission.
3. The IPSASB functions as an independent standard-setting body under the auspices of IFAC. It achieves its objectives by:
 - Issuing International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs);
 - Promoting their acceptance and the international convergence to these standards; and
 - Publishing other documents which provide guidance on issues and experiences in financial reporting in the public sector.

Appointment of Members

4. The members of the IPSASB are appointed by the Board of IFAC. The IPSASB comprises 18 members, 15 of whom are nominated by the member

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD
TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Occasional Papers and Research Reports to provide information that contributes to the body of knowledge about public sector financial reporting issues and developments. They are aimed at providing new information or fresh insights and generally result from research activities such as: literature searches, questionnaire surveys, interviews, experiments, case studies and analysis.
10. In developing its standards, the IPSASB seeks input from its Consultative Group and considers and makes use of pronouncements issued by:
- The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) to the extent they are applicable to the public sector;
 - National standard-setters, regulatory authorities and other authoritative bodies;
 - Professional accounting bodies, and
 - Other organizations interested in financial reporting in the public sector.

The IPSASB will ensure that its pronouncements are consistent with those of the IASB to the extent those pronouncements are applicable and appropriate to the public sector.

11. The objective of the IPSASB Consultative Group is to provide a forum in which the IPSASB can consult with representatives of different groups of constituents to obtain input and feedback on its work program, project priorities, major technical issues, due process and activities in general. The Consultative Group does not vote on International Public Sector Accounting Standards or other documents issued by the IPSASB.
12. The IPSASB cooperates with national standard-setters in preparing and issuing Standards to the extent possible, with a view to sharing resources, minimizing duplication of effort and reaching consensus and convergence in standards at an early stage in their development. It also promotes the endorsement of IPSASs by national standard-setters and other authoritative bodies and encourages debate with users, including elected and appointed representatives: Treasuries, Ministries of Finance and similar authoritative bodies; and practitioners throughout the world to identify user needs for new standards and guidance.

Working Procedures

13. The IPSASB issues exposure drafts of all proposed standards for public comment. In some cases, the IPSASB may also issue an Invitation to Comment prior to the development of an Exposure Draft. This provides an opportunity for those affected by IPSASB pronouncements to provide input and present their views before the pronouncements are finalized and

THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL REPORTING BY PUBLIC SECTOR ENTITIES

- Expectations regarding service delivery and other activities in future periods, and the long term consequences of decisions made and activities undertaken during the reporting period, including those that may impact expectations about the future.

This information may be presented in the notes to the financial statements or in separate reports included in GPFs.

Budget Information and Compliance with Legislation or Other Authority Governing the Raising and Use of Resources

- 2.18 Typically, a government or other public sector entity prepares, approves and makes publicly available an annual budget. The approved budget provides interested parties with financial information about the entity's operational plans for the forthcoming period, its capital needs and, often, its service delivery objectives and expectations. It is used to justify the raising of resources from taxpayers and other resource providers, and establishes the authority for expenditure of resources.
- 2.19 Some resources to support the activities of public sector entities may be received from donors, lenders or as a result of exchange transactions. However, resources to support the activities of public sector entities are predominantly provided in non-exchange transactions by taxpayers and others, consistent with the expectations reflected in an approved budget.
- 2.20 GPFs provide information about the financial results (whether described as "surplus or deficit," "profit or loss," or by other terms), performance and cash flows of the entity during the reporting period, its assets and liabilities at the reporting date and the change therein during the reporting period, and its service delivery achievements.
- 2.21 The inclusion within GPFs of information that assists users in assessing the extent to which revenues, expenses, cash flows and financial results of the entity comply with the estimates reflected in approved budgets, and the entity's adherence to relevant legislation or other authority governing the raising and use of resources, is important in determining how well a public sector entity has met its financial objectives. Such information is necessary for the discharge of a government's or other public sector entity's accountability to its constituents, enhances the assessment of the financial performance of the entity and will inform decision making.

Service Delivery Achievements

- 2.22 The primary objective of governments and most public sector entities is to provide needed services to constituents. Consequently, the financial performance of governments and most public sector entities will not be fully or adequately reflected in any measure of financial results. Therefore, their financial results will need to be assessed in the context of the achievement of service delivery objectives.
- 2.23 In some cases, quantitative measures of the outputs and outcomes of the entity's service delivery activities during the reporting period will provide relevant information about the achievement of service delivery objectives—for example, information about the cost, volume, and frequency of service delivery, and the relationship of services provided to the resource base of the entity. In other cases, the achievement of service delivery objectives may need to be communicated by an explanation of the quality of particular services provided or the outcome of certain programs.
- 2.24 Reporting non-financial as well as financial information about service delivery activities, achievements and/or outcomes during the reporting period will provide input to assessments of the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of the entity's operations. Reporting such information is necessary for a government or other public sector entity to discharge its obligation to be accountable—that is, to account for, and justify the use of, the resources raised from, or on behalf of, constituents. Decisions that donors make about the allocation of resources to particular entities and programs are also made, at least in part, in response to information about service delivery achievements during the reporting period, and future service delivery objectives.

Prospective Financial and Non-financial Information

- 2.25 Given the longevity of governments and many government programs, the financial consequences of many decisions made in the reporting period may only become clear many years into the future. Financial statements which present information about financial position at a point in time and financial performance and cash flows over the reporting period will then need to be assessed in the context of the long term.
- 2.26 Decisions made by a government or other public sector entity in a particular period about programs for delivering and funding services in the future can have significant consequences for:
- Constituents who will be dependent on those services in the future; and
 - Current and future generations of taxpayers and other involuntary resource providers who will provide the taxes and levies to fund the planned service delivery activities and related financial commitments

providers of development and other assistance. While these other parties may find the information provided by GPFRs useful, they are not the primary users of GPFRs. Therefore, GPFRs are not developed to specifically respond to their particular information needs.

Accountability and Decision Making

- 2.7 The primary function of governments and other public sector entities is to provide services that enhance or maintain the well-being of citizens and other eligible residents. Those services include, for example, welfare programs and policing, public education, national security and defense services. In most cases, these services are provided as a result of a non-exchange transaction³ and in a non-competitive environment.
- 2.8 Governments and other public sector entities are accountable to those that provide them with resources, and to those that depend on them to use those resources to deliver services during the reporting period and over the longer term. The discharge of accountability obligations requires the provision of information about the entity's management of the resources entrusted to it for the delivery of services to constituents and others, and its compliance with legislation, regulation, or other authority that governs its service delivery and other operations. Given the way in which the services provided by public sector entities are funded (primarily by taxation revenues or other non-exchange transactions) and the dependency of service recipients on the provision of those services over the long term, the discharge of accountability obligations will also require the provision of information about such matters as the entity's service delivery achievements during the reporting period, and its capacity to continue to provide services in future periods.
- 2.9 Service recipients and resource providers will also require information as input for making decisions. For example:
- Lenders, creditors, donors and others that provide resources on a voluntary basis, including in an exchange transaction, make decisions about whether to provide resources to support the current and future activities of the government or other public sector entity. In some circumstances, members of the legislature or similar representative body who depend on GPFRs for the information they need, can make or influence decisions about the service delivery objectives of government departments, agencies or programs and the resources allocated to support their achievement; and
 - Taxpayers do not usually provide funds to the government or other public sector entity on a voluntary basis or as a result of an exchange transaction. In addition, in many cases, they do not have the discretion to choose whether or not to accept the services provided by a public sector entity or to choose an alternative service provider. Consequently, they have little direct or immediate capacity to make decisions about whether to provide resources to the government, the resources to be allocated for the provision of services by a particular public sector entity or whether to purchase or consume the services provided. However, service recipients and resource providers can make decisions about their voting preferences, and

³ Exchange transactions are transactions in which one entity receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and directly gives approximately equal value to another entity in exchange. Non-exchange transactions are transactions in which an entity receives value from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange.

THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL REPORTING BY PUBLIC SECTOR ENTITIES

of accountability and its capacity to inform and influence decisions that need to be made. A lack of timeliness can render information less useful.

- 3.20 Some items of information may continue to be useful long after the reporting period or reporting date. For example, for accountability and decision-making purposes, users of GPFs may need to assess trends in the financial and service delivery performance of the entity and its compliance with budgets over a number of reporting periods. In addition, the outcome and effects of some service delivery programs may not be determinable until future periods—for example, this may occur in respect of programs intended to enhance the economic well-being of constituents, reduce the incidence of a particular disease, or increase literacy levels of certain age groups.

Comparability

3.21 Comparability is the quality of information that enables users to identify similarities in, and differences between, two sets of phenomena. Comparability is not a quality of an individual item of information, but rather a quality of the relationship between two or more items of information.

3.22 Comparability differs from consistency. Consistency refers to the use of the same accounting principles or policies and basis of preparation, either from period to period within an entity or in a single period across more than one entity. Comparability is the goal, and consistency helps in achieving that goal. In some cases, the accounting principles or policies adopted by an entity may be revised to better represent a particular transaction or event in GPFs. In these cases, the inclusion of additional disclosures or explanation may be necessary to satisfy the characteristics of comparability.

3.23 Comparability also differs from uniformity. For information to be comparable, like things must look alike and different things must look different. An over-emphasis on uniformity may reduce comparability by making unlike things look alike. Comparability of information in GPFs is not enhanced by making unlike things look alike, any more than it is by making like things look different.

3.24 Information about the entity's financial position, financial performance, cash flows, compliance with approved budgets and relevant legislation or other authority governing the raising and use of resources, service delivery achievements, and its future plans is necessary for accountability purposes and useful as input for decision-making purposes. The usefulness of such information is enhanced if it can be compared with, for example:

- Prospective financial and non-financial information previously presented for that reporting period or reporting date;
- Similar information about the same entity for some other period or some other point in time; and
- Similar information about other entities (for example, public sector entities providing similar services in different jurisdictions) for the same reporting period.

3.25 Consistent application of accounting principles, policies and basis of preparation to prospective financial and non-financial information and actual outcomes will enhance the usefulness of any comparison of projected and actual results. Comparability with other entities may be less significant for explanations of management's perception or opinion of the factors underlying the entity's current performance.

Verifiability

3.26 Verifiability is the quality of information that helps assure users that information in GPFs faithfully represents the economic and other phenomena that it purports to represent. Supportability is sometimes used to describe this quality when applied in respect of explanatory information and prospective financial and non-financial quantitative information disclosed in GPFs—that is, the quality of information that helps assure users that explanatory or prospective financial and non-financial quantitative information faithfully represents the economic and other phenomena that it purports to represent. Whether referred to as verifiability or supportability, the characteristic implies that different knowledgeable and independent observers could reach general consensus, although not necessarily complete agreement, that either:

- The information represents the economic and other phenomena that it purports to represent without material error or bias; or
- An appropriate recognition, measurement, or representation method has been applied without material error or bias.

3.27 To be verifiable, information need not be a single point estimate. A range of possible amounts and the related probabilities also can be verified.

3.28 Verification may be direct or indirect. With direct verification, an amount or other representation is itself verified, such as by (a) counting cash, (b) observing marketable securities and their quoted prices, or (c) confirming that the factors

THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL REPORTING BY PUBLIC SECTOR ENTITIES

- The range, volume and cost of services provided during the reporting period are appropriate, and the amounts and sources of their cost recoveries; and
- Current levels of taxes or other resources raised are sufficient to maintain the volume and quality of services currently provided.

Service recipients will also require information about the consequences of decisions made, and activities undertaken, by the entity during the reporting period on the resources available to support the provision of services in future periods, the entity's anticipated future service delivery activities and objectives, and the amounts and sources of cost recoveries necessary to support those activities.

- 2.13 Resource providers will require information as input to assessments of such matters as whether the entity:
- Is achieving the objectives established as the justification for the resources raised during the reporting period;
 - Funded current operations from funds raised in the current period from taxpayers or from borrowings or other sources; and
 - Is likely to need additional (or less) resources in the future, and the likely sources of those resources.

Lenders and creditors will require information as input to assessments of the liquidity of the entity and, therefore, whether the amount and timing of repayment will be as agreed. Donors will require information to support assessments of whether the entity is using resources economically, efficiently, effectively and as intended. They will also require information about the entity's anticipated future service delivery activities and resource needs.

Information Provided by General Purpose Financial Reports

Financial Position, Financial Performance and Cash Flows

- 2.14 Information about the financial position of a government or other public sector entity will enable users to identify the resources of the entity and claims to those resources at the reporting date. This will provide information useful as input to assessments of such matters as:
- The extent to which management has discharged its responsibilities for safekeeping and managing the resources of the entity;
 - The extent to which resources are available to support future service delivery activities, and changes during the reporting period in the amount and composition of those resources and claims to those resources; and
 - The amounts and timing of future cash flows necessary to service and repay existing claims to the entity's resources.
- 2.15 Information about the financial performance of a government or other public sector entity will inform assessments of matters such as whether the entity has acquired resources economically, and used them efficiently and effectively to achieve its service delivery objectives. Information about the costs of service delivery and the amounts and sources of cost recovery during the reporting period will assist users to determine whether operating costs were recovered from, for example, taxes, user charges, contributions and transfers, or were financed by increasing the level of indebtedness of the entity.
- 2.16 Information about the cash flows of a government or other public sector entity contributes to assessments of financial performance and the entity's liquidity and solvency. It indicates how the entity raised and used cash during the period, including its borrowing and repayment of borrowing and its acquisition and sale of, for example, property, plant, and equipment. It also identifies the cash received from, for example, taxes and investments and the cash transfers made to, and received from, other governments, government agencies or international organisations. Information about cash flows can also support assessments of the entity's compliance with spending mandates expressed in cash flow terms, and inform assessments of the likely amounts and sources of cash inflows needed in future periods to support service delivery objectives.
- 2.17 Information about financial position, financial performance and cash flows are typically presented in financial statements. To assist users to better understand, interpret and place in context the information presented in the financial statements, GPPFRs may also provide financial and non-financial information that enhances, complements and supplements the financial statements, including information about such matters as the government's or other public sector entity's:
- Compliance with approved budgets and other authority governing its operations;
 - Service delivery activities and achievements during the reporting period; and

PREFACE TO INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Introduction

1. This *Preface* to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs) sets out the objectives of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) and explains the scope and authority of the IPSASs. The *Preface* should be used as a reference for interpreting Consultation Papers, other discussion documents, Exposure Drafts, Recommended Practice Guidelines and Standards developed and issued by the IPSASB.
2. The mission of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), as set out in its constitution, is "to serve the public interest by contributing to the development, adoption and implementation of high-quality international standards and guidance; contributing to the development of strong professional accountancy organizations and accounting firms, and to high quality practices by professional accountants, promoting the value of professional accountants worldwide, and speaking out on public interest issues where the accountancy profession's expertise is most relevant." In pursuing this mission, the IFAC Board has established the IPSASB to function as an independent standard-setting body under the auspices of IFAC.
3. The IPSASB serves the public interest by developing and issuing, under its own authority, accounting standards and other publications for use by public sector entities as described in paragraph 10 below.
4. Information on the IPSASB's membership, terms of office, meeting procedures and due process is set out in the IPSASB's *Terms of Reference*, which are approved by the IFAC Board.

Objective of the IPSASB

5. The objective of the IPSASB is to serve the public interest by developing high-quality accounting standards and other publications for use by public sector entities around the world in the preparation of general purpose financial reports.
6. This is intended to enhance the quality and transparency of public sector financial reporting by providing better information for public sector financial management and decision making. In pursuit of this objective, the IPSASB supports the convergence of international and national public sector accounting standards and the convergence of accounting and statistical bases of financial reporting where appropriate; and also promotes the acceptance of its standards and other publications.
7. In fulfilling its objective, the IPSASB develops and issues the following publications:
 - IPSASs as the standards to be applied in the preparation of general purpose financial reports of public sector entities.
 - Recommended Practice Guidelines (RPGs) to provide guidance on good practice that public sector entities are encouraged to follow.
 - Studies to provide advice on financial reporting issues in the public sector. They are based on study of the good practices and most effective methods for dealing with the issues being addressed.
 - Other papers and research reports to provide information that contributes to the body of knowledge about public sector financial reporting issues and developments. They are aimed at providing new information or fresh insights and generally result from research activities such as: literature searches, questionnaire surveys, interviews, experiments, case studies and analysis.

Scope and Authority of International Public Sector Accounting Standards

Scope of the Standards

8. The IPSASB develops IPSASs which apply to the accrual basis of accounting and IPSASs which apply to the cash basis of accounting.
9. IPSASs set out requirements dealing with transactions and other events in general purpose financial reports. General purpose financial reports are financial reports intended to meet the information needs of users who are unable to require the preparation of financial reports tailored to meet their specific information needs.
10. The IPSASs are designed to apply to public sector entities¹ that meet all the following criteria:
 - (a) Are responsible for the delivery of services² to benefit the public and/or to redistribute income and wealth;

¹ Paragraph 1.8 of *The Conceptual Framework for General Purpose Financial Reporting by Public Sector Entities* identifies a wide range of public sector entities for which IPSASs are designed.

² Services encompasses goods, services and public advice, including to other public sector entities.

THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL REPORTING BY PUBLIC SECTOR ENTITIES

The approved budget is often the basis for setting taxation levels, and is part of the process for obtaining legislative approval for spending.

9. Because of the approved budget's significance, information that enables users to compare financial results with the budget facilitates an assessment of the extent to which a public sector entity has met its financial objectives. Such information promotes accountability and informs decision making in subsequent budgets. Reporting against budget is commonly the mechanism for demonstrating compliance with legal requirements relating to the public finances. The needs of users for budget information is discussed in Chapter 2.

The Nature of Public Sector Programs and the Longevity of the Public Sector

10. Many public sector programs are long term and the ability to meet commitments depends upon future taxation and contributions. Many commitments arising from public sector programs and powers to levy future taxation do not meet the definitions of a liability and an asset in Chapter 5, *Elements in Financial Statements*. Therefore, such commitments and powers are not recognized in the financial statements.
11. Consequently, the statement of financial position and statement of financial performance cannot provide all the information that users need on long-term programs, particularly those delivering social benefits. The financial consequences of many decisions will have an impact many years or even decades into the future, so GPFs containing prospective financial information on the long-term sustainability of an entity's finances and key programs are necessary for accountability and decision-making purposes as discussed in Chapter 2.
12. Although political control may change regularly, nation states generally have very long existences. While they may encounter severe financial difficulties and may default on sovereign debt obligations, nation states continue to exist. If sub-national entities get into financial difficulties, national governments might act as lenders of last resort or provide large scale guarantees. The main service delivery commitments of sub-national entities may continue to be funded by a higher level of government. In other cases public sector entities that are unable to meet their liabilities as they fall due may continue to exist by restructuring their operations.
13. The going concern principle underpins the preparation of the financial statements. Interpretation of the principle needs to reflect the issues discussed in paragraphs 11 and 12.

The Nature and Purpose of Assets and Liabilities in the Public Sector

14. In the public sector, the primary reason for holding property, plant, and equipment and other assets is for their service potential rather than their ability to generate cash flows¹. Because of the types of services provided, a significant proportion of assets used by public sector entities is specialized—for example, roads and military assets. There may be a limited market for such assets and, even then, they may need considerable adaptation in order to be used by other operators. These factors have implications for the measurement of such assets. Chapter 7, *Measurement of Assets and Liabilities in Financial Statements*, discusses measurement bases for assets.
15. Governments and other public sector entities may hold items that contribute to the historical and cultural character of a nation or region—for example, art treasures, historical buildings, and other artifacts. They may also be responsible for national parks and other areas of natural significance with native flora and fauna. Such items and areas are not generally held for sale, even if markets exist. Rather, governments and public sector entities have a responsibility to preserve and maintain them for current and future generations.
16. Governments often have powers over natural and other resources such as mineral reserves, water, fishing grounds, forests and the electromagnetic spectrum. These powers allow governments to grant licenses for the use of such resources or to obtain royalties and taxes from their use. The definition of an asset and recognition criteria are discussed in Chapters 5 and 6, *Recognition in Financial Statements*.
17. Governments and other public sector entities incur liabilities related to their service delivery objectives. Many liabilities arise from non-exchange transactions and include those related to programs that operate to deliver social benefits. Liabilities may also arise from governments' role as a lender of last resort and from any obligations to transfer resources to those affected by disasters. In addition many governments have obligations that arise from monetary activities such as currency in circulation. The definition of a liability and recognition criteria are discussed in Chapters 5 and 6.

¹ Some public sector assets will generate cash flows, but this is often not the main reason for holding them.

- 3.12 An omission of some information can cause the representation of an economic or other phenomenon to be false or misleading, and thus not useful to users of GPFRs. For example, a complete depiction of the item "plant and equipment" in GPFRs will include a numeric representation of the aggregate amount of plant and equipment together with other quantitative, descriptive and explanatory information necessary to faithfully represent that class of assets. In some cases, this may include the disclosure of information about such matters as the major classes of plant and equipment, factors that have affected their use in the past or might impact on their use in the future, and the basis and process for determining their numeric representation. Similarly, prospective financial and non-financial information and information about the achievement of service delivery objectives and outcomes included in GPFRs will need to be presented with the key assumptions that underlie that information and any explanations that are necessary to ensure that its depiction is complete and useful to users.
- 3.13 Neutrality in financial reporting is the absence of bias. It means that the selection and presentation of financial and non-financial information is not made with the intention of attaining a particular predetermined result—for example, to influence in a particular way users' assessment of the discharge of accountability by the entity or a decision or judgment that is to be made, or to induce particular behavior.
- 3.14 Neutral information faithfully represents the economic and other phenomena that it purports to represent. However, to require information included in GPFRs to be neutral does not mean that it is not without purpose or that it will not influence behavior. Relevance is a qualitative characteristic and, by definition, relevant information is capable of influencing users' assessments and decisions.
- 3.15 The economic and other phenomena represented in GPFRs generally occur under conditions of uncertainty. Information included in GPFRs will therefore often include estimates that incorporate management's judgment. To faithfully represent an economic or other phenomenon, an estimate must be based on appropriate inputs, and each input must reflect the best available information. Caution will need to be exercised when dealing with uncertainty. It may sometimes be necessary to explicitly disclose the degree of uncertainty in financial and non-financial information to faithfully represent economic and other phenomena.
- 3.16 Free from material error does not mean complete accuracy in all respects. Free from material error means there are no errors or omissions that are individually or collectively material in the description of the phenomenon, and the process used to produce the reported information has been applied as described. In some cases, it may be possible to determine the accuracy of some information included in GPFRs—for example, the amount of a cash transfer to another level of government, the volume of services delivered or the price paid for the acquisition of plant and equipment. However, in other cases it may not—for example, the accuracy of an estimate of the value or cost of an item or the effectiveness of a service delivery program may not be able to be determined. In these cases, the estimate will be free from material error if the amount is clearly described as an estimate, the nature and limitations of the estimation process are explained, and no material errors have been identified in selecting and applying an appropriate process for developing the estimate.

Understandability

- 3.17 Understandability is the quality of information that enables users to comprehend its meaning. GPFRs of public sector entities should present information in a manner that responds to the needs and knowledge base of users, and to the nature of the information presented. For example, explanations of financial and non-financial information and commentary on service delivery and other achievements during the reporting period and expectations for future periods should be written in plain language, and presented in a manner that is readily understandable by users. Understandability is enhanced when information is classified, characterized, and presented clearly and concisely. Comparability also can enhance understandability.
- 3.18 Users of GPFRs are assumed to have a reasonable knowledge of the entity's activities and the environment in which it operates, to be able and prepared to read GPFRs, and to review and analyze the information presented with reasonable diligence. Some economic and other phenomena are particularly complex and difficult to represent in GPFRs, and some users may need to seek the aid of an advisor to assist in their understanding of them. All efforts should be undertaken to represent economic and other phenomena included in GPFRs in a manner that is understandable to a wide range of users. However, information should not be excluded from GPFRs solely because it may be too complex or difficult for some users to understand without assistance.

Timeliness

- 3.19 Timeliness means having information available for users before it loses its capacity to be useful for accountability and decision-making purposes. Having relevant information available sooner can enhance its usefulness as input to assessments