

IASB publishes *Guide for Micro-sized Entities Applying the IFRS for SMEs (2009)*

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) today issued guidance to help micro-sized entities apply the *IFRS for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs)*.

The *IFRS for SMEs* is a set of high quality financial reporting principles that is derived from the full set of IFRSs but tailored for the needs and capabilities of non-publicly accountable companies, estimated to account for over 95 per cent of all companies around the world, and users of their financial statements.

The *IFRS for SMEs* has been widely accepted around the world, with more than 80 jurisdictions having already adopted or planning to adopt the Standard. In some of these jurisdictions the *IFRS for SMEs* is being used by very small companies with just a few employees. In response to requests from constituents, the IASB has developed guidance both to assist micro-sized entities currently applying the *IFRS for SMEs* and to make the *IFRS for SMEs* more accessible for those considering applying it in the future. The guidance supports the *IFRS for SMEs* and does not constitute a separate Standard for micro-sized entities.

The guidance has been developed with input from the SME Implementation Group (an advisory body to the IASB). It extracts from the *IFRS for SMEs* only those requirements that are likely to be necessary for a typical micro-sized entity, without modifying any of the principles for recognising and measuring assets, liabilities, income and expenses. In a few areas, it also contains further guidance and illustrative examples to help a micro-sized entity apply the principles in the *IFRS for SMEs*.

The guidance contains cross-references to the *IFRS for SMEs* for matters not covered by the guidance. Consequently, having applied the guidance, an entity's notes to the financial statements and auditor's report could refer to conformity with the *IFRS for SMEs* because this guidance does not modify the requirements of the *IFRS for SMEs*.

Hans Hoogervorst, Chairman of the IASB, commented:

“The *IFRS for SMEs* has already been a remarkable success, having been adopted by more than 80 countries and used by millions of companies worldwide. The guidance published today will greatly help smaller companies to provide financial statements in line with globally recognised Standards.”

More information about the *IFRS for SMEs* is available at <http://go.ifrs.org/IFRS-for-SMEs>.

End

Press enquiries:

Mark Byatt, Director of Communications and External Affairs, IFRS Foundation

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7246 6472

Email: mbyatt@ifrs.org

Chris Welsh, Communications Manager, IFRS Foundation

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7246 6495

Email: cwelsh@ifrs.org

Notes to editors

About the International Accounting Standards Board

The IASB was established in 2001 and is the standard-setting body of the IFRS Foundation, an independent, private sector, not-for-profit organisation. The IASB is committed to developing, in the public interest, a single set of high quality, global accounting Standards that provide high quality, transparent and comparable information in general purpose financial statements. In pursuit of this objective the IASB conducts extensive public consultations and seeks the co-operation of international and national bodies around the world. The IASB has 16 full-time members drawn from 13 countries and a variety of professional backgrounds. Board members are appointed by, and accountable to, the Trustees of the IFRS Foundation, who are required to select the best available combination of technical expertise and diversity of international business and market experience. In their work the Trustees are accountable to a Monitoring Board of public authorities.