



28 June 2013

To: **Members of the Hong Kong Institute of CPAs**
All other interested parties

**INVITATION TO COMMENT ON IASB EXPOSURE DRAFT OF AGRICULTURE:
BEARER PLANTS (PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO IAS 16 AND IAS 41)**

Comments to be received by 30 September 2013

The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants' (Institute) Financial Reporting Standards Committee (FRSC) is seeking comments on the IASB Exposure Draft which has been posted on the Institute's website at:

http://www.hkicpa.org.hk/file/media/section6_standards/standards/FinancialReporting/ed-pdf-2013/ed_bplan1.pdf

As stated in the IASB's press release, accompanying the Exposure Draft, bearer plants are a class of biological assets that, once mature, are held by an entity solely to grow produce over their productive life. Examples include grape vines, rubber trees and oil palms.

IAS 41 *Agriculture* requires all biological assets that are related to agricultural activity, including bearer plants, to be measured at fair value less costs to sell. This requirement is based on the principle that biological transformation is best reflected by fair value measurement.

However, once mature, bearer plants no longer undergo significant biological transformation. Furthermore, their operation is similar to that of manufacturing. Consequently, the Exposure Draft proposes that bearer plants are accounted for by IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment* instead of IAS 41, thus permitting the use of either a cost model or a revaluation model. The produce growing on the bearer plants would remain under the fair value model in IAS 41.

The FRSC invites your comments on the proposals. Comments should be supported by specific reasoning and should be submitted in written form. To allow your comments to be considered, in developing its response to the IASB, the FRSC requests your comments to be received by the Institute on or before **30 September 2013**.

Comments may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail to:

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Comments will be acknowledged and may be made available for public review unless otherwise requested by the contributor.