



23 July 2020

Dear HKICPA insurance subscribers,

**Updates on HKFRS/IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts
From the Standard Setting Department of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants**

**1. International and domestic developments on the Exposure Draft (ED)
*Amendments to IFRS 17***

Following completion of its redeliberations on the ED *Amendments to IFRS 17*, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) finalised and issued the amendments to IFRS 17 on 25 June 2020.

The IASB has published a [press release](#) and [Project Summary and Feedback Statement](#), which includes an overview of the project and a summary of how the IASB has responded to stakeholders' comments.

The amendments are targeted in scope and designed to:

- Reduce costs – by simplifying some requirements.
- Make results easier to explain – by revising some requirements to address implementation concerns.
- Ease transition – by extending the effective date to 1 January 2023 and providing additional transition relief.

Further information about the amendments can be found on the [IASB's website](#).

Full text of final IFRS 17 Standard including amendments

The IASB has made a copy of the full text of IFRS 17, including amendments, available on [their website](#).

Next steps

The Institute will continue to monitor international and local developments with regard to IFRS/HKFRS 17 and, in accordance with the Institute's due process and convergence policy for IFRS Standards, consider the endorsement process for equivalent amendments to HKFRS 17 in the coming months. Updates will be provided on our [website](#).

The Institute recommends that entities make constructive use of the deferral of the effective date to 1 January 2023, and continue their implementation efforts in order to be in the position to successfully apply IFRS/HKFRS 17 by this date.

2. Hong Kong Insurance Implementation Support Group (HKIISG) Update

The HKIISG continues to meet regularly to discuss implementation issues related to HKFRS/IFRS 17.

Stakeholders interested in HKFRS 17 implementation are invited to:

- register as an observer to attend a meeting;
- submit an implementation question; and/or

- follow meeting outcomes.

[Agenda papers and meeting summaries for all HKIISG meetings](#), [information how to register as an observer](#) and [details on how to submit an implementation question](#) may be found on our website.

3. Training and other resources on HKFRS/IFRS 17

Resources and educational materials may be found on the Institute's [webpage](#).

Additionally, the IASB's [implementation support webpage](#) contains a series of educational webcasts and webinars on the requirements of the Standard. The IASB also has [published regular podcasts](#) covering decisions made during the amendments to IFRS 17 project.

The Institute, in collaboration with KPMG, also offers an e-course covering technical topics on IFRS 17. The course consists of multiple interactive modules to allow flexible learning. Institute members can register at preferential rates using a discount code in the [members' area](#) of the Institute's website.

The Institute will be hosting [upcoming workshops on IFRS/HKFRS 17](#) on 27 August, 2 September, and 7 September. However, please note that the Institute continues to monitor the ongoing COVID-19 situation, and as such, these and other face-to-face events at the Institute may be subject to review and potential cancellation. Further details from the Institute on the coronavirus situation are available at our [COVID-19 CPA Information Centre](#).

Conclusion

If you have colleagues or peers that would like to receive these updates, please ask them to subscribe by e-mailing insurance@hkicpa.org.hk. Past newsletters are available [here](#).

Sincerely,

Standard Setting Department

Hong Kong Institute of CPAs