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Effective for audits of financial statements
for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2009

Hong Kong Standard on Auditing 710

Comparative Information— Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements



Hong Kong Institute of
Certified Public Accountants
香港會計師公會

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HONG KONG STANDARD ON AUDITING 710

**COMPARATIVE INFORMATION—
CORRESPONDING FIGURES AND COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2009)

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<p>Hong Kong Standard on Auditing (HKSA) 710, <i>Comparative Information—Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements</i>, should be read in conjunction with HKSA 200, <i>Overall Objectives of the Independent Auditor and the Conduct of an Audit in Accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing</i>.</p>
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Introduction

Scope of this HKSA

1. This Hong Kong Standard on Auditing (HKSA) deals with the auditor's responsibilities relating to comparative information in an audit of financial statements. When the financial statements of the prior period have been audited by a predecessor auditor or were not audited, the requirements and guidance in HKSA 510¹ regarding opening balances also apply.

The Nature of Comparative Information

2. The nature of the comparative information that is presented in an entity's financial statements depends on the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework. There are two different broad approaches to the auditor's reporting responsibilities in respect of such comparative information: corresponding figures and comparative financial statements. The approach to be adopted is often specified by law or regulation but may also be specified in the terms of engagement.
3. The essential audit reporting differences between the approaches are:
 - (a) For corresponding figures ^{1a}, the auditor's opinion on the financial statements refers to the current period only; whereas
 - (b) For comparative financial statements, the auditor's opinion refers to each period for which financial statements are presented.

This HKSA addresses separately the auditor's reporting requirements for each approach.

Effective Date

4. This HKSA is effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2009.

Objectives

5. The objectives of the auditor are:
 - (a) To obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about whether the comparative information included in the financial statements has been presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements for comparative information in the applicable financial reporting framework; and
 - (b) To report in accordance with the auditor's reporting responsibilities.

Definitions

6. For purposes of the HKSAs, the following terms have the meanings attributed below:
 - (a) Comparative information – The amounts and disclosures included in the financial statements in respect of one or more prior periods in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

¹ HKSA 510, *Initial Audit Engagements—Opening Balances*

^{1a} Additional local guidance is provided in Appendix 2.

- (b) Corresponding figures – Comparative information where amounts and other disclosures for the prior period are included as an integral part of the current period financial statements, and are intended to be read only in relation to the amounts and other disclosures relating to the current period (referred to as “current period figures”). The level of detail presented in the corresponding amounts and disclosures is dictated primarily by its relevance to the current period figures.
- (c) Comparative financial statements – Comparative information where amounts and other disclosures for the prior period are included for comparison with the financial statements of the current period but, if audited, are referred to in the auditor’s opinion. The level of information included in those comparative financial statements is comparable with that of the financial statements of the current period.

For purposes of this HKSA, references to “prior period” should be read as “prior periods” when the comparative information includes amounts and disclosures for more than one period.

Requirements

Audit Procedures

7. The auditor shall determine whether the financial statements include the comparative information required by the applicable financial reporting framework and whether such information is appropriately classified. For this purpose, the auditor shall evaluate whether:
 - (a) The comparative information agrees with the amounts and other disclosures presented in the prior period or, when appropriate, have been restated; and
 - (b) The accounting policies reflected in the comparative information are consistent with those applied in the current period or, if there have been changes in accounting policies, whether those changes have been properly accounted for and adequately presented and disclosed.
8. If the auditor becomes aware of a possible material misstatement in the comparative information while performing the current period audit, the auditor shall perform such additional audit procedures as are necessary in the circumstances to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to determine whether a material misstatement exists. If the auditor had audited the prior period’s financial statements, the auditor shall also follow the relevant requirements of HKSA 560.² If the prior period financial statements are amended, the auditor shall determine that the comparative information agrees with the amended financial statements.
9. As required by HKSA 580,³ the auditor shall request written representations for all periods referred to in the auditor’s opinion. The auditor shall also obtain a specific written representation regarding any restatement made to correct a material misstatement in prior period financial statements that affect the comparative information. (Ref: Para. A1)

Audit Reporting

Corresponding Figures

10. When corresponding figures are presented, the auditor’s opinion shall not refer to the corresponding figures except in the circumstances described in paragraphs 11, 12, and 14. (Ref: Para. A2)

² HKSA 560, *Subsequent Events*, paragraphs 14-17

³ HKSA 580, *Written Representations*, paragraph 14

11. If the auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion, a disclaimer of opinion, or an adverse opinion and the matter which gave rise to the modification is unresolved, the auditor shall modify the auditor's opinion on the current period's financial statements. In the Basis for Modification paragraph in the auditor's report, the auditor shall either:
 - (a) Refer to both the current period's figures and the corresponding figures in the description of the matter giving rise to the modification when the effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material; or
 - (b) In other cases, explain that the audit opinion has been modified because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures. (Ref: Para. A3-A5)
12. If the auditor obtains audit evidence that a material misstatement exists in the prior period financial statements on which an unmodified opinion has been previously issued, and the corresponding figures have not been properly restated or appropriate disclosures have not been made, the auditor shall express a qualified opinion or an adverse opinion in the auditor's report on the current period financial statements, modified with respect to the corresponding figures included therein. (Ref: Para. A6)

Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor

13. If the financial statements of the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor and the auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures and decides to do so, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph in the auditor's report:
 - (a) That the financial statements of the prior period were audited by the predecessor auditor;
 - (b) The type of opinion expressed by the predecessor auditor and, if the opinion was modified, the reasons therefore; and
 - (c) The date of that report. (Ref: Para. A7)

Prior Period Financial Statements Not Audited

14. If the prior period financial statements were not audited, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph in the auditor's report that the corresponding figures are unaudited. Such a statement does not, however, relieve the auditor of the requirement to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements.⁴ (Ref: Para. A8)

Comparative Financial Statements

15. When comparative financial statements are presented, the auditor's opinion shall refer to each period for which financial statements are presented and on which an audit opinion is expressed. (Ref: Para. A9-A10)

⁴ HKSA 510, paragraph 6

16. When reporting on prior period financial statements in connection with the current period's audit, if the auditor's opinion on such prior period financial statements differs from the opinion the auditor previously expressed, the auditor shall disclose the substantive reasons for the different opinion in an Other Matter paragraph in accordance with HKSA 706 (Revised).¹ (Ref: Para. A11)

Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor

17. If the financial statements of the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor, in addition to expressing an opinion on the current period's financial statements, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph:
 - (a) that the financial statements of the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor;
 - (b) the type of opinion expressed by the predecessor auditor and, if the opinion was modified, the reasons therefore; and
 - (c) the date of that report,

unless the predecessor auditor's report on the prior period's financial statements is reissued with the financial statements.

18. If the auditor concludes that a material misstatement exists that affects the prior period financial statements on which the predecessor auditor had previously reported without modification, the auditor shall communicate the misstatement with the appropriate level of management and, unless all of those charged with governance are involved in managing the entity,² those charged with governance and request that the predecessor auditor be informed. If the prior period financial statements are amended, and the predecessor auditor agrees to issue a new auditor's report on the amended financial statements of the prior period, the auditor shall report only on the current period. (Ref: Para. A12)

Prior Period Financial Statements Not Audited

19. If the prior period financial statements were not audited, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph that the comparative financial statements are unaudited. Such a statement does not, however, relieve the auditor of the requirement to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements.³ (Ref: Para. A13)

Conformity and Compliance with International Standards on Auditing

20. As of January 2024, this HKSA conforms with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 710, *Comparative Information Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements*. Compliance with the requirements of this HKSA ensures compliance with ISA 710.
21. Additional local guidance is provided in footnote 1a and Appendices 1 and 2.

¹ HKSA 706 (Revised), *Emphasis of Matter Paragraphs and Other Matter Paragraphs in the Independent Auditor's Report*, paragraph 8

² HKSA 260 (Revised), *Communication with Those Charged with Governance*, paragraph 13

³ HKSA 510, paragraph 6

Application and Other Explanatory Material

Audit Procedures

Written Representations (Ref: Para. 9)

- A1. In the case of comparative financial statements, the written representations are requested for all periods referred to in the auditor's opinion because management needs to reaffirm that the written representations it previously made with respect to the prior period remain appropriate. In the case of corresponding figures, the written representations are requested for the financial statements of the current period only because the auditor's opinion is on those financial statements, which include the corresponding figures. However, the auditor requests a specific written representation regarding any restatement made to correct a material misstatement in the prior period financial statements that affect the comparative information.

Audit Reporting

Corresponding Figures

No Reference in Auditor's Opinion (Ref: Para. 10)

- A2. The auditor's opinion does not refer to the corresponding figures because the auditor's opinion is on the current period financial statements as a whole, including the corresponding figures.

Modification in Auditor's Report on the Prior Period Unresolved (Ref: Para. 11)

- A3. When the auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion, a disclaimer of opinion, or an adverse opinion and the matter which gave rise to the modified opinion is resolved and properly accounted for or disclosed in the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework, the auditor's opinion on the current period need not refer to the previous modification.
- A4. When the auditor's opinion on the prior period, as previously expressed, was modified, the unresolved matter that gave rise to the modification may not be relevant to the current period figures. Nevertheless, a qualified opinion, a disclaimer of opinion, or an adverse opinion (as applicable) may be required on the current period's financial statements because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current and corresponding figures.
- A5. Illustrative examples of the auditor's report if the auditor's report on the prior period included a modified opinion and the matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved are contained in Illustrations 1 and 2 of the Appendix 1.

Misstatement in Prior Period Financial Statements (Ref: Para. 12)

- A6. When the prior period financial statements that are misstated have not been amended and an auditor's report has not been reissued, but the corresponding figures have been properly restated or appropriate disclosures have been made in the current period financial statements, the auditor's report may include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph describing the circumstances and referring to where relevant disclosures that fully describe the matter that can be found in the financial statements (see HKSA 706 (Revised)).

Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor (Ref: Para. 13)

- A7. An illustrative example of the auditor's report if the prior period financial statements were audited by a predecessor auditor and the auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures is contained in Illustration 3 of the Appendix 1.

Prior Period Financial Statements Not Audited (Ref: Para. 14)

- A8 If the auditor is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the opening balances, the auditor is required by HKSA 705 (Revised)¹ to express a qualified opinion or disclaim an opinion on the financial statements, as appropriate, in accordance with HKSA 705 (Revised). If the auditor encountered significant difficulty in obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements, the auditor may determine this to be a key audit matter in accordance with HKSA 701.²

Comparative Financial Statements

Reference in Auditor's Opinion (Ref: Para. 15)

- A9. Because the auditor's report on comparative financial statements applies to the financial statements for each of the periods presented, the auditor may express a qualified opinion or an adverse opinion, disclaim an opinion, or include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph with respect to one or more periods, while expressing a different auditor's opinion on the financial statements of the other period.
- A10. An illustrative example of the auditor's report if the auditor is required to report on both the current and the prior period financial statements in connection with the current year's audit and the prior period included a modified opinion and the matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved, is contained in Illustration 4 of the Appendix 1.

Opinion on Prior Period Financial Statements Different from Previous Opinion (Ref: Para. 16)

- A11. When reporting on the prior period financial statements in connection with the current period's audit, the opinion expressed on the prior period financial statements may be different from the opinion previously expressed if the auditor becomes aware of circumstances or events that materially affect the financial statements of a prior period during the course of the audit of the current period. In some jurisdictions, the auditor may have additional reporting responsibilities designed to prevent future reliance on the auditor's previously issued report on the prior period financial statements.

Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor (Ref: Para. 18)

- A12. The predecessor auditor may be unable or unwilling to reissue the auditor's report on the prior period financial statements. An Other Matter paragraph of the auditor's report may indicate that the predecessor auditor reported on the financial statements of the prior period before amendment. In addition, if the auditor is engaged to audit and obtains sufficient appropriate audit evidence to be satisfied as to the appropriateness of the amendment, the auditor's report may also include the following paragraph:

¹ HKSA 705 (Revised), *Modifications to the Opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report*

² HKSA 701, *Communicating Key Audit Matters in the Independent Auditor's Report*

COMPARATIVE INFORMATION—
CORRESPONDING FIGURES AND COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As part of our audit of the 20X2 financial statements, we also audited the adjustments described in Note X that were applied to amend the 20X1 financial statements. In our opinion, such adjustments are appropriate and have been properly applied. We were not engaged to audit, review, or apply any procedures to the 20X1 financial statements of the company other than with respect to the adjustments and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the 20X1 financial statements taken as a whole.

Prior Period Financial Statements Not Audited (Ref: Para. 19)

- A13. If the auditor is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the opening balances, the auditor is required by HKSA 705 (Revised) to express a qualified opinion or disclaim an opinion on the financial statements, as appropriate, in accordance with HKSA 705 (Revised). If the auditor encountered significant difficulty in obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements, the auditor may determine this to be a key audit matter in accordance with HKSA 701.

Appendix 1

(Ref: Para. A5, A7, A10)

Illustrations of Independent Auditors' Reports

Illustration 1 - Corresponding Figures

For purposes of this illustrative auditor's report, the following circumstances are assumed:

- Audit of a complete set of financial statements of an entity other than a listed entity using Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (HKFRSs). The audit is not a group audit (i.e., HKSA 600¹ does not apply).
- The financial statements are prepared by the directors of the entity in accordance with HKFRSs (a general purpose framework).
- The terms of the audit engagement reflect the description of the directors' responsibility for the financial statements in HKSA 210.²
- The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.
- The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.
- The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material and require a modification to the auditor's opinion regarding the current period figures.
- The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the audit are those of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.
- Based on the audit evidence obtained, the auditor has concluded that a material uncertainty does not exist related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern in accordance with HKSA 570 (Revised).³
- The auditor is not required, and has otherwise not decided, to communicate key audit matters in accordance with HKSA 701.
- The auditor has not obtained any other information prior to the date of the auditor's report.^{3a}
- Those responsible for oversight of the financial statements differ from those responsible for the preparation of the financial statements.
- In addition to the audit of the financial statements, the auditor has other reporting responsibilities required under local law in addition to the Companies Ordinance.

¹ HKSA 600, *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*

² HKSA 210, *Agreeing the Terms of Audit Engagements*

³ HKSA 570 (Revised), *Going Concern*

^{3a} Under section 406(2) of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622), the auditor is required to state in the auditor's report if the auditor is of the opinion that the information in a directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements. In this regard, the auditor refers to HKSA 720 (Revised) for guidance.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of ABC Company

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)^{3b}

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements⁴

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Company (“the Company”) set out on pages to, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 20X1, and [the statement of profit or loss and] ^{4a} the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”) and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Companies Ordinance.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

As discussed in Note X to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements, which constitutes a departure from HKFRSs. This is the result of a decision taken by the directors at the start of the preceding financial year and caused us to qualify our audit opinion on the financial statements relating to that year. Based on the straight-line method of depreciation and annual rates of 5% for the building and 20% for the equipment, the loss for the year should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, property, plant and equipment should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, and the accumulated loss should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing (“HKSA”) issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the HKICPA’s *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (“the Code”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

^{3b} In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

⁴ The sub-title “Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements” is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title “Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements” is not applicable.

^{4a} HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”) or a two-statement approach (i.e. a “statement of profit or loss” together with a “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

Responsibilities of Directors and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements⁵

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised)⁶ – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor’s Address]

[Date]

⁵ Throughout these illustrative auditor’s reports, the terms directors and those charged with governance may need to be replaced by another term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

⁶ HKSA 700 (Revised), *Forming an Opinion and Reporting on Financial Statements*

Illustration 2 - Corresponding Figures

For purposes of this illustrative auditor's report the following circumstances are assumed:

- Audit of a complete set of financial statements of an entity other than a listed entity using Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (HKFRSs). The audit is not a group audit (i.e., HKSA 600 does not apply).
- The financial statements are prepared by the directors of the entity in accordance with HKFRSs (a general purpose framework).
- The terms of the audit engagement reflect the description of the directors' responsibility for the financial statements in HKSA 210.
- The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.
- The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.
- The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are immaterial but require a modification to the auditor's opinion because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures.
- The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the audit are those of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.
- Based on the audit evidence obtained, the auditor has concluded that a material uncertainty does not exist related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern in accordance with HKSA 570 (Revised).
- The auditor is not required, and has otherwise not decided, to communicate key audit matters in accordance with HKSA 701.
- The auditor has not obtained any other information prior to the date of the auditor's report.^{6a}
- Those responsible for oversight of the financial statements differ from those responsible for the preparation of the financial statements.
- In addition to the audit of the financial statements, the auditor has other reporting responsibilities required under local law in addition to the Companies Ordinance.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of ABC Company

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)^{6b}

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements⁷

^{6a} Under section 406(2) of the Companies Ordinance, the auditor is required to state in the auditor's report if the auditor is of the opinion that the information in a directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements. In this regard, the auditor refers to HKSA 720 (Revised) for guidance.

^{6b} In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

⁷ The sub-title "Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Company (“the Company”) set out on pages to, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 20X1, and [the statement of profit or loss and]7a the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects on the corresponding figures of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”) and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Companies Ordinance.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Because we were appointed auditors of the Company during 20X0, we were not able to observe the counting of the physical inventories at the beginning of that period or satisfy ourselves concerning those inventory quantities by alternative means. Since opening inventories affect the determination of the results of operations, we were unable to determine whether adjustments to the results of operations and opening retained earnings might be necessary for 20X0. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the period ended 31 December 20X0 was modified accordingly. Our opinion on the current period’s financial statements is also modified because of the possible effect of this matter on the comparability of the current period’s figures and the corresponding figures.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing (“HKSA”) issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the HKICPA’s *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (“the Code”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Directors and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements⁸

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised)— see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised)— see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

^{7a} HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”) or a two-statement approach (i.e. a “statement of profit or loss” together with a “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

⁸ Or other terms that are appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's Address]

[Date]

Illustration 3 - Corresponding Figures

For purposes of this illustrative auditor's report the following circumstances are assumed:

- Audit of a complete set of financial statements of an entity other than a listed entity using Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (HKFRSs). The audit is not a group audit (i.e., HKSA 600 does not apply).
- The financial statements are prepared by the directors of the entity in accordance with HKFRSs (a general purpose framework).
- The terms of the audit engagement reflect the description of the directors' responsibility for the financial statements in HKSA 210.
- The auditor has concluded an unmodified (i.e., "clean") opinion is appropriate based on the audit evidence obtained.
- The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the audit are those of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.
- Based on the audit evidence obtained, the auditor has concluded that a material uncertainty does not exist related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern in accordance with HKSA 570 (Revised).
- The auditor is not required, and has otherwise not decided, to communicate key audit matters in accordance with HKSA 701.
- The auditor has obtained all of the other information prior to the date of the auditor's report and has not identified a material misstatement of the other information.
- Corresponding figures are presented, the prior period's financial statements were audited by a predecessor auditor.
- The auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures and decides to do so.
- Those responsible for oversight of the financial statements differ from those responsible for the preparation of the financial statements.
- In addition to the audit of the financial statements, the auditor has other reporting responsibilities required under local law in addition to the Companies Ordinance.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of ABC Company

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)^{8a}

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements⁹

^{8a} In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

⁹ The sub-title "Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Company (“the Company”) set out on pages to, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 20X1, and [the statement of profit or loss and] ^{9a} the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”) and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Companies Ordinance.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing (“HKSA”) issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the HKICPA’s *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (“the Code”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Other Matter

The financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 20X0, were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on 31 March 20X1.

Other Information [or another title if appropriate such as “Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor’s Report Thereon”]

[Reporting in accordance with the reporting requirements in HKSA 720 (Revised) – see Illustration 1 in Appendix 2 of HKSA 720 (Revised).]¹⁰

Responsibilities of Directors and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements ¹¹

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

^{9a} HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”) or a two-statement approach (i.e. a “statement of profit or loss” together with a “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

¹⁰ HKSA720 (Revised), *The Auditor’s Responsibilities Relating to Other Information*

¹¹ Or other terms that are appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's Address]

[Date]

Illustration 4 - Comparative Financial Statements^{11a}

For purposes of this illustrative auditor's report the following circumstances are assumed:

- Audit of a complete set of financial statements of an entity other than a listed entity using Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (HKFRSs). The audit is not a group audit (i.e., HKSA 600 does not apply).
- The financial statements are prepared by management of the entity in accordance with HKFRSs (a general purpose framework).
- The terms of the audit engagement reflect the description of management's responsibility for the financial statements in HKSA 210.
- The auditor is required to report on both the current period financial statements and the prior period financial statements in connection with the current year's audit.
- The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.
- The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.
- The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material to both the current period financial statements and prior period financial statements and require a modification to the auditor's opinion.
- The relevant ethical requirements that apply to the audit are those of the jurisdiction.
- Based on the audit evidence obtained, the auditor has concluded that a material uncertainty does not exist related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern in accordance with HKSA 570 (Revised).
- The auditor is not required, and has otherwise not decided, to communicate key audit matters in accordance with HKSA 701.
- The auditor has not obtained any other information prior to the date of the auditor's report.
- Those responsible for oversight of the financial statements differ from those responsible for the preparation of the financial statements.
- In addition to the audit of the financial statements, the auditor has other reporting responsibilities required under local law.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Shareholders of ABC Company [or Other Appropriate Addressee]

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements¹²

^{11a} The comparative financial statements as presented in this Illustration are not generally applicable to an audit performed on a Hong Kong incorporated company's annual statutory financial statements, refer to Appendix 2.

¹² The sub-title "Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Company (“the Company”) set out on pages to, which comprise the statements of financial position as at 31 December 20X1 and 20X0, and [the statement of profit or loss and] ^{12a} the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1 and 20X0 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”).

Basis for Qualified Opinion

As discussed in Note X to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements, which constitutes a departure from HKFRSs. Based on the straight-line method of depreciation and annual rates of 5% for the building and 20% for the equipment, the loss for the year should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, property, plant and equipment should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, and the accumulated loss should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing (“HKSA”) issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in [jurisdiction], and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements¹³

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised)— see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised)— see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

^{12a} HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”) or a two-statement approach (i.e. a “statement of profit or loss” together with a “statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income”). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

¹³ Or other terms that are appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

[Reporting in accordance with HKSA 700 (Revised) – see Illustration 3 in HKSA 700 (Revised).]

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's Address]

[Date]

Appendix 2

(Ref: Para. 3(a))

Additional Local Guidance on Corresponding Figures

In Hong Kong the corresponding figures method of presentation as described in paragraph 3(a) is used.

- (a) Financial statements of companies incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance are required to disclose comparative amounts as required under the applicable accounting standards.
- (b) Appendix 16 to the Main Board Rules and Chapter 18.07(5) of the GEM Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Ltd. require financial statements of listed issuers to include comparative figures for the balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement and statement of changes in equity for the corresponding previous period.
- (c) “Comparative figures” referred to by the Main Board Rules and GEM Rules refers to the corresponding figures as described in this HKSA.

The auditor’s consideration of comparative financial statements as described in paragraphs 3(b), 15-19 and A9-A13 is, therefore, not generally applicable to an audit performed on a Hong Kong incorporated company’s annual statutory financial statements in accordance with HKSAs.