Deutsches Rechnungslegungs Standards Committee e.V.

Accounting Standards Committee of Germany



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Berlin, 19 August 2019

Dear Sue,

IFRS IC's tentative agenda decisions in its June 2019 meeting

On behalf of the Accounting Standards Committee of Germany (ASCG), I am writing to comment on the tentative agenda decisions taken by the IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRS IC) and published in the June 2019 *IFRIC Update*.

We agree with most of the tentative agenda decisions. However, we do not agree with the conclusion and/or the reasons behind three of these.

Please find our specific comments in the appendix to this letter. If you would like to discuss our views further, please do not hesitate to contact Jan-Velten Große (grosse@drsc.de) or me.

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Barckow

President

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Appendix – Detailed Comments

Tentative decision on IFRS 9 - Fair value hedge of FX risk on non-financial assets

We are not convinced that the IFRS IC's discussion and its findings help appropriately addressing the questions raised.

We have concerns with the IFRS IC's description where the FX volatility arises from in the different fact patterns (PPE, inventory, etc.). As per the tentative agenda decision, the (potentially designated) FX risk arises from pricing a non-financial asset "in one particular currency at a global level". In contrast, as per the Agenda Paper the non-financial assets are "routinely [be] denominated in a particular currency" or "purchased in an established market". As these are different, nonetheless precise, descriptions of FX market circumstances under which assets are to be translated into the functional currency, it remains unclear whether the condition in IFRS 9.6.5.2(a) is considered met under any of these circumstances. Depending on this, the wording might inadvertently narrow the fact patterns to which the IFRS IC's tentative decision would apply.

Tentative decision on IFRS 15 - Compensation for delays or cancellations

We do not fully agree with the tentative decision and conclusion in respect of the submitted fact pattern. Specifically, we would have appreciated a more holistic discussion that included variations of the fact pattern submitted or modified circumstances in order to better distinguish between situations where something is indeed a reduction of the selling price per IFRS 15 or separate obligations provided for under IAS 37. Without this, the tentative decision is not as helpful as it could be, as it does not illustrate potential legal or contractual rights and obligations that could distinguish between (a) compensations "still" being a variable consideration of the very same performance obligation and (b) those being a separate obligation, thus in the scope of IAS 37. Examples are distinguishing primary services vs. collateral services/obligations, low or non-performance vs. (penalty for) harm/damage, legal warranties vs. contractual guarantees, service-type warranties, product liabilities, etc. This said, we suggest the IFRS IC extend its discussion in this regard. This is of particular interest, as an agenda decision by the IFRS IC could affect service contracts in many different industries and not merely affect the airline sector concerned in the specific agenda item request.

Further, we question the appropriateness of not addressing the very important question of how to account for compensations that exceed the transaction price as we do believe this to be important in the fact patterns concerned, which is why it should not be ignored. Therefore, we request the IFRS IC to continue its discussion by considering and answering this follow-up question.

Given the broad relevance and complexity of this issue, we also suggest the IFRS IC re-consider whether clarifying IFRS 15 by way of an agenda decision is appropriate, esp. against the proposals in the revised Due Process Handbook.

Tentative decision on IFRS 16 – Lessee's incremental borrowing rate

We believe that the tentative decision and the explanation should be clarified. As the IFRS IC only states that "IFRS 16 does not **explicitly** require..." to determine the implicit borrowing rate based on a loan with a similar payment profile, it remains unclear whether, or under which circumstances, this is still implicitly required or not.

Since we understand IFRS 16 not to require an entity to revert to a loan with a similar payment profile, and in this respect agree with the tentative decision, we suggest that the word "explicitly" in the agenda's wording be deleted.