Applying IFRS® Standards

Fourth Edition



Ruth Picker
Kerry Clark
John Dunn
David Kolitz
Gilad Livne
Janice Loftus
Leo van der Tas







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FOURTH EDITION

RUTH PICKER

EY

KERRY CLARK

EY

JOHN DUNN University of Strathclyde

- DAVID KOLITZ University of Exeter Business School

GILAD LIVNE University of Exeter Business School

> JANICE LOFTUS University of Adelaide

LEO VAN DER TAS

Tilburg University

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Victoria Wise

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FROM THE PROFESSION

EY is delighted to support Applying IFRS Standards, fourth edition. With International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS*) now being mandated, or permitted, for the financial reporting of listed entities in most parts of the world, it has become the global language of accounting. This means that comparing financial statements from companies across the globe has become much easier, fostering capital markets and reducing the cost of capital. It also has led to reductions in training costs and greater mobility of accounting staff and professionals across countries. You, as accountancy students and professionals, will benefit greatly from being able to carry your knowledge and experience from country to country without always having to study local accounting standards each time you cross a border.

Business and capital markets are developing continuously. So must financial reporting. The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB*), the IFRS Standards setter, recently issued a number of important new standards. The new IFRS 9 Financial Instruments addresses the issues that arose during the global credit crisis and, among others, answers calls for better loan loss provisions by banks and more practical hedge accounting rules. IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers modernises and greatly enhances the guidance on revenue recognition. Both new standards are covered in this new edition of Applying IFRS Standards as well as the key highlights of the new standard for lease accounting.

Applying IFRS Standards aims to help you master the complex world of IFRS Standards; as such, it is truly global in the wealth of insights and examples it provides, as well as abstracts from financial statements of companies across the globe. I am sure this book will be instructive not only to those learning about financial reporting standards for the first time, but also to accountancy professionals keeping abreast of developments in IFRS Standards and trying to find their way in applying IFRS Standards to transactions and events.

Now that IFRS Standards have been adopted in most parts of the world, it is important to interpret and apply the standards consistently to make it a truly single global set of accounting standards. I hope and trust this book will help in achieving a common and consistent understanding and application of IFRS Standards.

Leo van der Tas Global Leader — IFRS Services, Global Professional Practice EY London

May 2016

BRIEF CONTENTS

| Part 1 | CO | NCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK 1 | | | |
|------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 | The IASB and its Conceptual Framework 3 | | | |
| Part 2 | ELE | ELEMENTS 19 | | | |
| | 2 | Owners' equity: share capital and reserves 21 | | | |
| | 3 | Fair value measurement 49 | | | |
| | 4 | Revenue from contracts with customers 73 | | | |
| | 5 | Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets 95 | | | |
| | 6 | Income taxes 123 | | | |
| | 7 | Financial instruments 155 | | | |
| | 8 | Share-based payment 199 | | | |
| | 9 | Inventories 219 | | | |
| | 10 | Employee benefits 245 | | | |
| | 11 | Property, plant and equipment 275 | | | |
| | 12 | Leases 321 | | | |
| | 13 | Intangible assets 355 | | | |
| | 14 | Business combinations 379 | | | |
| | 15 | Impairment of assets 417 | | | |
| Online chapte | | Exploration for and evaluation of mineral resources | | | |
| Online chapte | т В | Agriculture | | | |
| PART 3 PRE | | SENTATION AND DISCLOSURES 447 | | | |
| | 16 | Financial statement presentation 449 | | | |
| | 17 | Statement of cash flows 485 | | | |
| | 18. | Operating segments 517 | | | |
| | 19 | Other key notes disclosures 537 | | | |
| PART 4 | | CONOMIC ENTITIES 559 | | | |
| | 20 | Consolidation: controlled entities 561 | | | |
| | 21 | Consolidation: wholly owned subsidiaries 577 | | | |
| | 22 | Consolidation: intragroup transactions 00 | | | |
| | 23 | Consolidation: non-controlling interest 00 | | | |
| | 24 | Translation of the financial statements of foreign entities 00 | | | |
| Online chapter C | | Associates and joint ventures | | | |
| Online chapter | D | Joint arrangements | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

PREFACE

With International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS®) now being mandated for listed companies in 100+ countries across the globe, it has become a truly global set of standards for financial reporting. IFRS Standards have also become the example for national accounting standards. The credit crisis has shown that a stable, globally accepted set of financial reporting standards is important to maintain transparency in financial communication by companies to their constituents.

An understanding of the IFRS Standards is therefore paramount for all those involved in financial reporting or preparing to attain such a role. It provides not just technical knowledge and in-depth understanding of the financial reporting process, but does so in a global business environment. *Applying IFRS Standards*, fourth edition, has been written to meet the needs of accountancy students and practitioners in understanding the complexities of IFRS Standards.

This publication is the fourth edition of the book. It has now established itself as a text that is used by academics and practitioners throughout the world. We have welcomed the comments and suggestions received from various people and have tried to ensure that these are reflected in this edition.

What's new in this edition?

The fourth edition addresses the major changes to a number of accounting standards and the release of new IFRS Standards, in particular:

- the IASB's Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting
- IFRS 9 Financial Instruments
- IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- IFRS 16 Leases.

The chapters covering these topics reflect these changes and discuss the consequences.

An important new feature has been introduced for the first time in this edition. Academic perspectives can be found at the end of all chapters in the first three parts of the book (i.e. chapters 1 to 19). These academic perspectives summarise and highlight certain findings from published research in accounting and other fields that pertain to a chapter's topic. Referring to these Perspectives should give the reader a basic understanding of questions that accounting researchers have attempted to address. Note, however, that the academic perspectives do not furnish a comprehensive review of related literature. Rather, they provide a starting point for further reading and exploration of relevant academic research.

Applying IFRS Standards fourth edition, also comes equipped with discussion questions and exercises at the end of each chapter, specifically designed to test the reader's understanding of the content. A wealth of additional learning materials can also be found at www.wiley.com/college/picker, including:

- Four additional chapters entitled: Exploration for and evaluation of mineral resources; Agriculture; Associates and joint ventures; Joint arrangements
- Instructor slides
- Testbank
- Additional exercises
- Solutions manual
- Access to the IFRS Learning Resources
 In writing this book, we have endeavoured to ensure that the following common themes flow throughout the text:
- Accounting standards are underpinned by a conceptual framework. Accounting standards are not simply
 a rulebook to be learnt by heart. An understanding of the conceptual basis of accounting, and
 the rationale behind the principles espoused in particular standards, is crucial to their consistent
 application in a variety of practical applications.
- The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB®) financial reporting standards are principles-based. Although a specific standard is a stand-alone document, the principles in any standard relate to and are interpreted in conjunction with other standards. To appreciate the application of a specific standard, an understanding of the reasoning within other standards is required. We have endeavoured where applicable to refer to other accounting standards that are connected in principle and application. In particular, extensive references are made to the Basis for Conclusions documents accompanying each standard issued by the IASB. This material, although not integral to the standards, explains the reasoning process used by the IASB and provides indicators of changes in direction being proposed by the IASB.
- Accounting standards have a practical application. The end product of the standard-setting process must
 be applied by accounting practitioners in a variety of organisational structures and practical settings.
 While a theoretical understanding of a standard is important, practitioners should be able to apply
 the relevant standard. The author of each chapter has demonstrated the practical application of the

accounting standards by providing case studies, examples and journal entries (where relevant). The references to practical situations require the reader to pay close attention to the detailed information discussed, given that such a detailed examination is essential to an understanding of the standards. Having only a broad overview of the basic principles is insufficient.

Writing a book like this is impossible without the help and input from many people. Much of the knowledge and insights reflected in this book have been gained through discussions and debates with many colleagues and with staff associated with the standard-setting bodies, particularly at the IASB. We thank them for sharing their perspectives and experience. We would like to thank the following people in particular. A team of people from EY's Global IFRS team in London, consisting of Angela Covic, Pieter Dekker, Steinar Kvifte, Victoria O'Leary, Alexandra Poddubnaya, Serene Seah-Tan and Charlene Teo, wrote and reviewed individual chapters of the book. Richard Barker from Saïd Business School, Oxford University reviewed the chapters in Part 4. Erik Roelofsen from Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam and PwC reviewed the Academic Perspectives. Elisabetta Barone from Brunel Business School updated the testbank. We would also like to thank Natalie Forde from Cardiff Business School and other anonymous reviewers who have provided valuable feedback and recommendations during the development of the fourth edition. In addition, we extend our thanks to the people at Wiley and professional freelancers for their help realising this edition, including Juliet Booker, Steve Hardman, Georgia King, Joyce Poh and Joshua Poole as well as Jennifer Mair and Paul Stringer. Last but not least, writing a book takes huge commitment, and this has left less time for family and friends. We thank them also for their support and understanding.

Finally, in a time when the world, with its increasing sophistication, seems to produce situations and pronouncements that have added complexity, we hope that this book assists in the lifelong learning process that ourselves and the readers of this book are continuously engaged in.

Ruth Picker Kerry Clark John Dunn David Kolitz Gilad Livne Janice Loftus Leo van der Tas

May 2016

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Ruth Picker

Ruth Picker BA, FCA, FSIA, FCPA, was Global Leader, Global IFRS Services, Global Professional Practice, with EY between 2009 and 2013. Ruth has over 30 years' experience with EY and has held various leadership roles during this time. Up until June 2009, Ruth was Managing Partner — Melbourne and the Oceania Team Leader of Climate Change and Sustainability Services. Prior to this role, Ruth was a senior partner in the Technical Consulting Group, Global IFRS and the firm's Professional Practice Director (PPD) responsible for directing the firm's accounting and auditing policies with the ultimate authority on accounting and auditing issues.

Ruth's authoritative insight and understanding of accounting policy and regulation was acknowledged through her appointment to the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC®), the official interpretative arm of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB®). She was a member of IFRIC between 2006 and 2013.

Ruth has conducted numerous 'Directors' Schools' for listed company boards. These schools were designed by Ruth and are aimed at enhancing the financial literacy of listed company board members.

She is a frequent speaker and author on accounting issues and has been actively involved in the Australian accounting standard-setting process, being a past member and former deputy chair of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and having served on the Urgent Issues Group for 3 years. She has been a long-standing lecturer and Task Force member for the Securities Institute of Australia, serving that organisation for 17 years.

Her written articles have been published in numerous publications, and she is frequently quoted in the media on accounting and governance issues.

Kerry Clark

Kerry Clark BCom, CA, CPA, is an Associate Partner in EY's Financial Accounting Advisory Services team in Calgary, Canada. Kerry provides accounting guidance to clients and staff advising on various financial reporting matters under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS® Standards) and United States generally accepted accounting principles and has over 25 years of experience with EY.

Kerry is a member of CPA Canada's Oil and Gas Industry Task Force, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers' IFRS Committee, EY's internal expert network on the new revenue recognition and leases standards and EY's Global Oil and Gas Industry Network.

Kerry's accounting experience spans a variety of industries, with a specific focus over the past several years on financial reporting issues in the energy industries, including oil and gas, infrastructure and utilities in Canada. Prior to this Kerry was a key member of EY's Technical Consulting Group, Global IFRS based in Melbourne, Australia, where she was responsible for advising clients on the application of IFRS Standards to complex transactions with a specific focus on the communications, entertainment and technology industry sectors.

Kerry frequently assists clients in understanding the financial reporting implications of complex transactions such as complicated infrastructure construction and partnership arrangements, leases, acquisitions and joint arrangements. She has been involved in the authoring of many EY publications and *Charter* magazine articles and assisted Ruth Picker in conducting 'Directors' Schools' for listed company boards. She has also spoken on accounting issues in many different forums in both Canada and Australia.

John Dunn

John Dunn is a lecturer at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, where he teaches financial accounting and auditing. He has published widely on those topics and others. He is a qualified accountant with extensive experience of examining for professional bodies.

David Kolitz

David Kolitz, BComm (Natal), BCom (Hons) (SA), MCom (Wits) is Senior Lecturer in the Business School at the University of Exeter. He was previously Associate Professor and Assistant Dean in the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He is an experienced accounting academic and the lead author/co-author of three other books in the area of Financial Accounting.

Gilad Livne

Gilad Livne, PhD, CPA, is a professor of accounting at the University of Exeter Business School. Previously Gilad served on the accounting faculty of the London Business School and Cass Business School. Gilad

received his MSc and PhD in accounting at the University of California at Berkeley, and BA (Accounting and Economics) in Tel Aviv University.

Gilad's teaching involves financial statement analysis, international accounting as well as advanced financial accounting courses. Gilad has taught on Undergraduate, MBA, Executive MBA, Sloan, Ph.D., and MSc programmes. In addition to teaching at Cass and LBS, Gilad has also taught at HEC (Paris), New Economic School (Moscow), Lancaster University, University of Lausanne (Switzerland), Oulu University (Finland) and on various company-specific programmes. Gilad has also consulted and appeared on TV and various radio programmes.

Gilad's research looks into auditor independence, international accounting, fair value accounting, and compensation. Gilad currently serves on a number of editorial boards of accounting journals. His research has been published in several journals including European Accounting Review, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Business Finance and Accounting, Journal of Corporate Finance, and Review of Accounting Studies.

Janice Loftus

Janice Loftus BBus, MCom (Hons) FCPA is an associate professor in accounting at the University of Adelaide, Australia. Her teaching interests are in the area of financial accounting and she has written several study guides for distance learning programmes. Janice's research interests are in the areas of financial reporting and social and environmental reporting. She co-authored Accounting Theory Monograph 11 on solvency and cash condition with Professor M.C. Miller. She has numerous publications on international financial reporting standards, risk reporting, solvency, earnings management, social and environmental reporting, and developments in standard setting in Australian and international journals. Janice co-authored Financial Reporting, Understanding Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting: Building Business Skills published by John Wiley & Sons Australia. Prior to embarking on an academic career, Janice held several senior accounting positions in Australian and multinational corporations.

Leo van der Tas

Leo van der Tas (PhD, RA) is the Global IFRS Leader at EY in London since 2013, before which he was the Global IFRS Technical Director at EY in London. In that role he is responsible for the IFRS Standards policy of EY and consistency of IFRS Standards implementation within the EY network. He is senior technical partner at EY in the Netherlands. He was a member of the IFRIC (and predecessor Standing Interpretations Committee of the IASB) between 1997 and 2006 and a member of the IFRS Foundation Advisory Council between 2009 and 2013.

Leo has been part-time full professor of financial reporting at Tilburg University, the Netherlands, since 2010 and before that part-time full professor at Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, since 1993. He chaired the committee for permanent education in financial reporting of the Dutch Institute of Accountants (NIVRA) until 2010.

Leo has been a member of the Consultative Working Group of the Standing Corporate Reporting Committee of the European Securities and Market Authority (ESMA) in Paris, France, since 2010. From 2007 to 2012 he was a member of the Advisory Committee on Financial Reporting of the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM) in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

He has published many books and articles in the area of international accounting and is a frequent speaker and teacher on the subject.

He was seconded to the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium, for a period of 2 years to assist in the development of the Commission's policy in the area of European accounting harmonisation.

ACRONYMS

Available-for-sale AFS Annual general meeting AGM Accounting Standards Codification ASC Business combinations value reserve BCVR Chief Executive Officer CEO CGH Cash-generating unit Chief Operating Decision Maker CODM COO Chief Operating Officer DBL(A) Defined benefit liability (asset) Defined benefit obligation DBO Exposure draft ED European Financial Reporting Advisory Group **EFRAG** EPS Earnings per share Financial Accounting Standards FAS FASB US Financial Accounting Standards Board First-in, first-out FIFO FV Fair value Fair value through other comprehensive income **FVOCI FVPL** Fair value through profit or loss US generally accepted accounting principles GAAP IAS® International Accounting Standards IASB® International Accounting Standards Board 1ASC International Accounting Standards Committee, predecessor of the IASB Initial direct costs IDC IFRIC® International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee, now the IFRS® Interpretations Committee IFRS® International Financial Reporting Standards IPO Initial public offering LIBOR London interbank offered rate MLP Minimum lease payments NCI Non-controlling interest OCI Other comprehensive income Present value PV R&D Research and development ROA Return on assets SAC Standards Advisory Council Share appreciation rights SARs SEAS US Statement of Financial Accounting Standards SPPI Solely payments of principal and interest TSR Total shareholder return US GAAP see GAAP

CONTENTS

| COMPLIATE | |
|---|---|
| | |
| Preface ix | 3.5 Application to liabilities 62 |
| About the authors xi | 3.6 Application to measurement of an |
| Acknowledgements xiii | entity's own equity 65 |
| List of Acronyms xv | 3.7 Application to financial instruments |
| | with offsetting positions 65 |
| Part 1 | 3.8 Disclosure 65 |
| CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK 1 | Summary 68 |
| 1 The IASB and its Conceptual Framework 3 | Discussion questions 68 |
| 1.1 The International Accounting | References 68 |
| Standards Board (IASB®) 4 | Exercises 69 |
| 1.2 The purpose of a conceptual framework 6 | Academic perspective 71 |
| 1.3 Qualitative characteristics of useful | 4 Revenue from contracts with customers 73 |
| financial information 7 | 4.1 Introduction 74 |
| 1.4 Going concern assumption 9 | 4.2 Scope 74 |
| 1.5 Definition of elements in financial statements 10 | 4.3 Identify the contract with the customer 75 |
| 1.6 Recognition of elements of financial statements 12 | 4.4 Identify the performance obligations 76 |
| 1.7 Measurement of the elements of | 4.5 Determine the transaction price 78 |
| financial statements 13 | 4.6 Allocate the transaction price 81 |
| 1.8 Concepts of capital 14 | 4.7 Satisfaction of performance obligations 82 |
| 1.9 Future developments 14 | 4.8 Contract costs 84 |
| Summary 15 | 4.9 Other application issues 85 |
| Discussion questions 15 | 4.10 Presentation and disclosures 87 |
| References 15 Exercises 15 | Summary 89 |
| Academic perspective 17 | Discussion questions 89 |
| Additional perspective 17 | References 90 |
| Part 2 | Exercises 90 |
| ELEMENTS 19 | Academic perspective 92 |
| | 5 Provisions, contingent liabilities |
| 2 Owners' equity: share capital and reserves 21 | and contingent assets 95 |
| 2.1 Equity 22 | 5.1 Introduction to IAS 37 96 |
| 2.2 For-profit companies 23 | 5.2 Scope 96 |
| 2.3 Key features of the corporate structure 23 | 5.3 Definition of a provision 97 |
| 2.4 Different forms of share capital 24 | 5.4 Distinguishing provisions from other liabilities 97 |
| 2.5 Contributed equity: issue of share capital 26 | 5.5 Definition of a contingent liability 97 |
| 2.6 Contributed equity: subsequent movements in share capital 28 | 5.6 Distinguishing a contingent liability |
| 2.7 Share capital: subsequent decreases | from a provision 98 |
| in share capital 32 | 5.7 The recognition criteria for provisions 98 |
| 2.8 Reserves 34 | 5.8 Measurement of provisions 100 |
| 2.9 Disclosure 38 | 5.9 Application of the definitions, recognition |
| Summary 40 | and measurement rules 104 |
| Discussion questions 40 | 5.10 Contingent assets 111 |
| References 40 | 5.11 Disclosure 111 |
| Exercises 40 | 5.12 Comparison between IFRS 3 and IAS 37 in |
| Academic perspective 46 | respect of contingent liabilities 113 |
| 3 Fair value measurement 49 | 5.13 Expected future developments 115 |
| | Summary 115 |
| 3.1 Introduction 503.2 The definition of fair value 51 | Discussion questions 116 References 116 |
| 3.2 The definition of fair value 31 | References 110 |

Exercises 116

Academic perspective 120

59

3.3 The fair value framework

3.4 Application to non-financial assets

| 6 Income taxes 123 | 8.7 Modifications to terms and conditions on which equity instruments were granted 208 | |
|---|--|--|
| 6.1 The nature of income tax 124 | 8.8 Cash-settled share-based payment transactions 209 | |
| 6.2 Differences between accounting profit and taxable profit 124 | 8.9 Disclosure 212 | |
| 6.3 Accounting for income taxes 126 | Summary 214 | |
| 6.4 Calculation of current tax 127 | Discussion questions 214 | |
| 6.5 Recognition of current tax 131 | References 214 | |
| 6.6 Payment of tax 131 | Exercises 214 | |
| 6.7 Tax losses 132 | Academic perspective 217 | |
| 6.8 Calculation of deferred tax 133 | 9 Inventories 219 | |
| 6.9 Recognition of deferred tax liabilities and deferred tax assets 139 | 9.1 The nature of inventories 220 | |
| 6.10 Change of tax rates 142 | 9.2 Measurement of inventory upon | |
| 6.11 Other issues 142 | initial recognition 221 9.3 Determination of cost 221 | |
| 6.12 Presentation in the financial statements 143 | | |
| 6.13 Disclosures 144 | 9.4 Accounting for inventory 224 | |
| Summary 148 | 9.5 End-of-period accounting 227 | |
| Discussion questions 148 | 9.6 Assigning costs to inventory on sale 231 | |
| References 148 | 9.7 Net realisable value 234 | |
| Exercises 148 | 9.8 Recognition as an expense 236 | |
| Academic perspective 153 | 9.9 Disclosure 236 | |
| | Summary 237 | |
| 7 Financial instruments 155 | Discussion questions 237 | |
| 7.1 Introduction 156 | References 238 | |
| 7.2 What is a financial instrument? 158 | Exercises 238 | |
| 7.3 Financial assets and financial liabilities 159 | Academic perspective 243 | |
| 7.4 Distinguishing financial liabilities from equity instruments 160 | 10 Employee benefits 245 | |
| 7.5 Compound financial instruments 163 | 10.1 Introduction to accounting for employee benefits 246 | |
| 7.6 Interest, dividends, gains and losses 164 | 10.2 Scope and purpose of IAS 19 246 | |
| 7.7 Financial assets and financial liabilities: scope 164 | 10.3 Defining employee benefits 246 | |
| 7.8 Derivatives and embedded derivatives 166 | 10.4 Short-term employee benefits 246 | |
| 7.9 Financial assets and financial liabilities: | 10.5 Post-employment benefits 253 | |
| categories of financial instruments 168 | 10.6 Accounting for defined contribution | |
| 7.10 Financial assets and financial liabilities: recognition criteria 171 | post-employment plans 254 10.7 Accounting for defined benefit | |
| 7.11 Financial assets and financial liabilities: measurement 171 | post-employment plans 255 10.8 Other long-term employee benefits 263 | |
| 7.12 Financial assets and financial liabilities: offsetting 181 | 10.9 Termination benefits 266 | |
| 7.13 Hedge accounting 181 | Summary 268 | |
| 7.14 Disclosures 188 | Discussion questions 268 | |
| Summary 194 | References 268 | |
| Discussion questions 194 | Exercises 269 | |
| References 194 | Academic perspective 273 | |
| Exercises 194 | Acquemic perspective 275 | |
| Academic perspective 197 | 11 Property, plant and equipment 275 | |
| neumentic perspective 197 | 11.1 The nature of property, plant and equipment 276 | |
| 8 Share-based payment 199 | 11.2 Initial recognition of property, plant | |
| Introduction 200 | and equipment 277 | |

11.3 Initial measurement of property,

plant and equipment 278

11.7 Choosing between the cost model and

11.6 The revaluation model 289

11.5 The cost model 283

11.4 Measurement subsequent to initial recognition 283

- 8.1 Application and scope 200
- 8.2 Cash-settled and equity-settled share-based payment transactions 201
- 8.3 Recognition 201

CONTENTS

- 8.4 Equity-settled share-based payment transactions 202
- 8.5 Vesting 204

vi

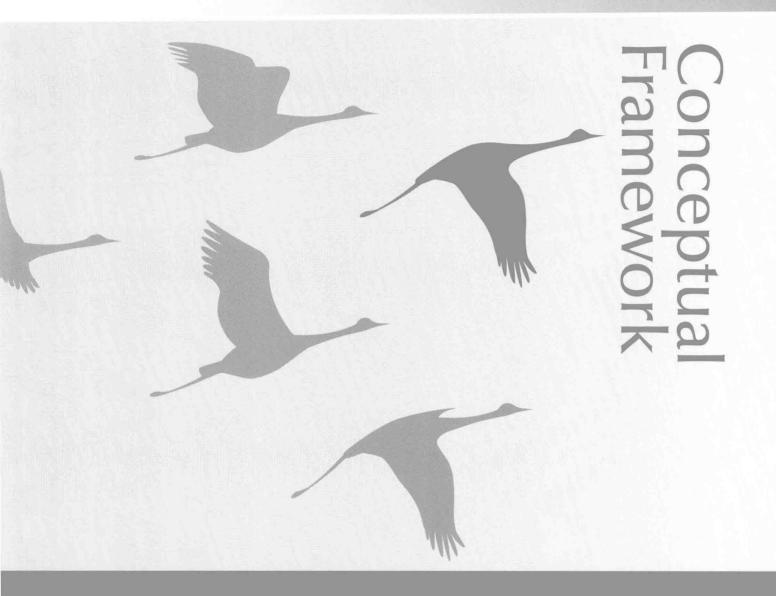
8.6 Treatment of a reload feature 207

| 11.8 Derecognition 300 | 15 Impairment of assets 417 |
|---|--|
| 11.9 Disclosure 301 | 15.1 Introduction to IAS 36 418 |
| 11.10 Investment properties 303 | 15.2 When to undertake an impairment test 418 |
| Summary 305 | 15.3 Impairment test for an individual asset 420 |
| Discussion questions 312 | 15.4 Cash-generating units — excluding goodwill 426 |
| References 313 | 15.5 Cash-generating units and goodwill 430 |
| Exercises 313 | 15.6 Reversal of an impairment loss 432 |
| Academic perspective 319 | 15.7 Disclosure 433 |
| | Summary 434 |
| 12 Leases 321 | Discussion questions 438 |
| Introduction 322 | References 438 |
| 12.1 What is a lease? 322 | Exercises 439 |
| 12.2 Classification of leases 323 | Academic perspective 444 |
| 12.3 Classification guidance 324 | rememe perspective 444 |
| 12.4 Accounting for finance leases by lessees 330 | Online chapter A Exploration for and evaluation of |
| 12.5 Accounting for finance leases by lessors 336 | mineral resources |
| 12.6 Accounting for finance leases by | Online chapter B Agriculture |
| manufacturer or dealer lessors 341 | |
| 12.7 Accounting for operating leases 342 | Part 3 |
| 12.8 Accounting for sale and leaseback transactions 34612.9 Changes to the leasing standards 348 | PRESENTATION AND DISCLOSURES 447 |
| Summary 349 | 16 Financial statement presentation 449 |
| Discussion questions 349 | Introduction 450 |
| Exercises 349 | 16.1 Components of financial statements 450 |
| Academic perspective 354 | 16.2 General principles of financial statements 451 |
| 13 Intangible assets 355 | 16.3 Statement of financial position 452 |
| Introduction 356 | 16.4 Statement of profit or loss and other |
| | comprehensive income 457 |
| 13.1 The nature of intangible assets 358 | 16.5 Statement of changes in equity 463 |
| 13.2 Recognition and initial measurement 360 | 16.6 Notes 466 |
| 13.3 Measurement subsequent to initial recognition 364 | 16.7 Accounting policies, changes in accounting |
| 13.4 Retirements and disposals 367 | estimates and errors 468 |
| 13.5 Disclosure 367 | 16.8 Events after the reporting period 473 |
| Summary 371 | Summary 475 |
| Discussion questions 372 References 373 | Discussion questions 475 |
| Exercises 373 | References 476 |
| | Exercises 476 |
| Academic perspective 376 | Academic perspective 482 |
| 14 Business combinations 379 | |
| 14.1 The nature of a business combination 380 | 17 Statement of cash flows 485 |
| 14.2 Accounting for a business combination — | Introduction and scope 486 |
| basic principles 381 | 17.1 Purpose of a statement of cash flows 486 |
| 14.3 Accounting in the records of the acquirer 383 | 17.2 Defining cash and cash equivalents 486 |
| 14.4 Recognition and measurement of assets acquired and liabilities assumed 383 | 17.3 Classifying cash flow activities 48717.4 Format of the statement of cash flows 489 |
| 14.5 Goodwill and gain on bargain purchase 385 | 17.5 Preparing a statement of cash flows 491 |
| 14.6 Shares acquired in the acquiree 392 | 17.6 Other disclosures 506 |
| 14.7 Accounting in the records of the acquiree 392 | Summary 509 |
| 14.8 Subsequent adjustments to the initial accounting | Discussion questions 509 |
| for a business combination 395 | References 509 |
| 14.9 Disclosure — business combinations 398 | Exercises 509 |
| Summary 400 | Academic perspective 515 |
| Discussion questions 406 | |
| References 406 | 18 Operating segments 517 |
| Exercises 407 | 18.1 Objectives of financial reporting by segments 518 |
| Academic perspective 414 | 18.2 Scope 518 |

| 18.3 A controversial standard 518 | 22 Consolidation: intragroup transactions 605 |
|--|--|
| 18.4 Identifying operating segments 520 | Introduction 606 |
| 18.5 Identifying reportable segments 522 | 22.1 Rationale for adjusting for intragroup |
| 18.6 Applying the definition of reportable | transactions 606 |
| segments 524 | 22.2 Transfers of inventory 607 |
| 18.7 Disclosure 524 | 22.3 Intragroup services 613 |
| 18.8 Applying the disclosures in practice 527 | 22.4 Intragroup dividends 614 |
| 18.9 Results of the post-implementation | 22.5 Intragroup borrowings 616 |
| review of IFRS 8 531 | Summary 617 |
| Summary 532 | Discussion questions 625 |
| Discussion questions 532 | Exercises 626 |
| References 532 | |
| Exercises 532 | 22 Consolidation non-controlling interest 625 |
| Academic perspective 535 | 23 Consolidation: non-controlling interest 635 |
| | 23.1 Non-controlling interest explained 636 |
| 19 Other key notes disclosures 537 | 23.2 Effects of an NCI on the consolidation process 638 |
| Introduction 538 | 23.3 Calculating the NCI share of equity 644 |
| 19.1 Related party disclosures 538 | 23.4 Adjusting for the effects of intragroup transactions 656 |
| 19.2 Earnings per share 543 | 23.5 Gain on bargain purchase 658 |
| Summary 554 | Summary 660 |
| Discussion questions 554 | Discussion questions 672 |
| References 555 | Exercises 672 |
| Exercises 555 | LIMITUSUS UT Z |
| Academic perspective 557 | 24 T |
| | 24 Translation of the financial statements |
| Part 4 | of foreign entities 679 |
| ECONOMIC ENTITIES 559 | 24.1 Translation of a foreign subsidiary's statements 680 |
| 20 Consolidation: controlled entities 561 | 24.2 Functional and presentation currencies 680 |
| Introduction 562 | 24.3 The rationale underlying the functional |
| 20.1 Consolidated financial statements 562 | currency choice 680 |
| 20.2 Control as the criterion for consolidation 564 | 24.4 Identifying the functional currency 683 |
| | 24.5 Translation into the functional currency 684 |
| 20.3 Preparation of consolidated financial statements 569 20.4 Business combinations and consolidation 570 | 24.6 Changing the functional currency 689 |
| 20.5 Disclosure 572 | 24.7 Translation into the presentation currency 689 |
| | 24.8 Consolidating foreign subsidiaries — where |
| Summary 574 | local currency is the functional currency 691 |
| Discussion questions 574 Exercises 575 | 24.9 Consolidating foreign subsidiaries — where functional currency is that of the parent |
| | entity 698 |
| 21 Consolidation: wholly owned | 24.10 Net investment in a foreign operation 699 |
| subsidiaries 577 | 24.11 Disclosure 700 |
| 21.1 The consolidation process 578 | Summary 700 |
| 21.2 Consolidation worksheets 579 | Discussion questions 701 |
| 21.3 The acquisition analysis: determining | References 701 |
| goodwill or bargain purchase 580 | Exercises 701 |
| 21.4 Worksheet entries at the acquisition date 583 | CONTROL SERVICE CONTROL CONTRO |
| 21.5 Worksheet entries subsequent to | Online chapter C Associates and joint ventures |
| the acquisition date 588 | Online chapter D Joint arrangements |
| 21.6 Revaluations in the records of the | O CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR |
| subsidiary at acquisition date 595 | Glossary 707 |
| 21.7 Disclosure 595 | Index 717 |
| Summary 598 | |

Exercises 598

Discussion questions 598





The IASB and its Conceptual Framework

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After studying this chapter, you should be able to:

- describe the organisational structure of the key players in setting International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS® Standards)
- describe the purpose of a conceptual framework who uses it and why
- explain the qualitative characteristics that make information in financial statements useful
- discuss the going concern assumption underlying the preparation of financial statements
- define the basic elements in financial statements assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses
- 6 explain the principles for recognising the elements of financial statements
- distinguish between alternative bases for measuring the elements of financial statements
- 8 outline concepts of capital.